NORTHERN ISLANDER

$4.50

SEPTEMBER 2024

FALL IS ON ITS WAY!

INTERNET AND 911 FAILURES EXPOSE CRITICAL AND PREVENTABLE RISKS

SEE THE STORIES ON PAGES 10, 24 & 34

THE 2024 BIHS KIDS CAMP WAS A BLAST FOR ALL

SEE THE SMILES & MEMORIES CREATED ON PAGES 4 & 5

WELCOME ARRANMORE ISLANDERS!

HALL OF FAME ANNOUNCED
SEE THE DETAILS
ON PAGE 14

FATHER FREDERIC BARAGA MAKES HIS MARK ON BEAVER ISLAND

SEE THE STORY ON PAGE 30

THE EIGTH ANNUAL “THIS PLACE MATTERS” POTLUCK DREW 100 SUPPORTERS

READ THE FULL STORY ON PAGE 4

2024 HOMECOMING WAS A HIT

CATCH THE MEMORIES ON PAGES 12 & 13

BEAVER ISLAND HISTORICAL SOCIETY
Keeping Island History Alive
Established 1957

NORTHERN ISLANDER

Is proudly owned and published by the
Beaver Island Historical Society

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As we say goodbye to the last days of summer, I hope you can reflect on all the special events, community programs, social functions, island attractions, entertainment, and much more. Regardless of whether you are a first-time visitor, a summer island homeowner, or a full-time resident, Beaver Island has a unique way of leaving a special place in your heart. If you missed any of our activities, the memories and stories are always captured in the Northern Islander.

One of our primary objectives is to promote local journalism and provide timely and critical news. The September issue may have reached your mailbox a few days later than usual as we were waiting to report on the critical news regarding the existing internet, connectivity, and 911 issues we are facing. You will hear from key stakeholders and our beat reporter Bill Reed regarding the serious steps we are collectively taking to both correct and prevent the problems moving forward.

This issue celebrates all the wonderful events from August that will have certainly left lasting memories and a promise for future good times. Over the next 44 pages, we capture the excitement and participation in past and upcoming activities.

- The events from the BIHS, BICC, BIDL, BIRHC, Beaver Island Irish Heritage Group and our local restaurants
- Extracurricular activities like the Shuffleboard Tournament, Youth Baseball, Homecoming, TUNES, The Beaver Island Archipelago, BIWC and Bocce Ball
- Township updates and local news
- Events that helped raise money for various island organizations
- Human interest, culture, and historical stories

Heading into September, we will be covering several events like the 2024 Féile (September 6 and 7, 2024), Youth sports and educational events, the BIHS Film Festival (September 20 and 21), community and social events, and much more.

A special note that for the off-season months, you can purchase your copies of the Northern Islander at the Beaver Island Historical Society, McDonough's Market, Beaver Island Community Center, and Power's Hardware Store.

A special akcnowledgment of those friends, family, and loved ones we lost. This summer we welcomed new visitors, island home-owners and friends to the Island. As we say goodbye to summer, we welcome fall.

Lastly, we welcome all our visitors from Arranmore Island and wish you a wonderful 2024 Féile!

Until next month,
Amy Marschner

**Pierre wants to know
if you have a story?
Share it with us!
To submit your piece for
consideration,
email our Editor at
editor@beaverislandhistory.org**

Print Shop Perspective

Since 1957, The Beaver Island Historical Society has been working to keep Beaver Island History alive! We advance this goal through a mission of preserving and sharing the unique history of Beaver Island and the Archipelago.

The annual meeting was held on August 19 at 7:00 p.m. at the Print Shop Museum. Fourteen Members of the Public and seven Board Members were in attendance. A recap of the year's activities was shared with the audience. Two trustee positions were voted upon. Craig Turnbull has served six years and accepted a third term through August 2028. Sheri Timsak has served a term limit of nine years on the Board of Directors. The Historical Society wishes to thank her for her dedication to helping preserve the legacy of Beaver Island. She will continue to organize and emcee Music on the Porch in the coming years. THANK YOU SHERI!

We are pleased to welcome our new trustee Kim Bousquet and look forward to working with her over the next three years.

Would you like to join one of our committees or discuss a future Board position? We have six committees and are actively seeking volunteers who have an interest in helping the Society advance our mission of Preserving and Sharing the Unique History of Beaver Island and the Archipelago. Our six committees are:

1. Finance – Budgeting and needs assessment
2. Operations - Museums
3. Maintenance - Buildings
4. Development – Memberships & Fundraising
5. Marketing – Museum Week and other events
6. Publications – Northern Islander & Beaver Beacon

Museum Week 2024 we celebrated the Island artists and musicians. We had over 200 community members attend to support the kickoff of our annual event. The overall theme of 2024 Museum Week was Women's History. We celebrated the accomplishments of Keewaydinoquay, Skip McDonough, Charlotte McDonough and Jo Hooker. We would like to thank Michelle LaFreniere for her love of island history and for working with the families to help with the presentations and poster preparation. Please stay tuned to her page and she will share pieces of her research about these Island Matriarchs in the coming months.

BEAVER ISLAND HISTORICAL SOCIETY
Keeping Island History Alive
Established 1957

Lori Taylor-Blitz
Executive Director
Beaver Island Historical Society
Office: 231-448-2254
Cell: 906-361-2031

Museum Week 2024: July 14 - 19
Kids Camp 2024: July 22 - 26

THANK YOU
FOR SUPPORTING THE BEAVER ISLAND HISTORICAL SOCIETY SUMMER OF 2024 EVENTS AND PROGRAMMING!
WARMLY,
BIHS BOARD OF DIRECTORS

KIDS CAMP 2024

By Lori Taylor-Blitz

The Beaver Island Historical Society celebrated our fourth annual Kids Camp July 22-26. Kids Camp accomplished several goals for 47 day campers ages 4-13. It was an awesome opportunity for making new Friends, exploring Pollinators, Paleontology, Reptiles, Music, Art and Slip & Slide.

The children enjoyed a variety of unique daily events. Depending on ages:

- Explored the Pollinator Garden behind the Print Shop Museum with Janet Nank and learned about the role of bugs & bees as pollinators
- Created pollinators out of clay
- Had a sandcastle competition
- Special Guest Speaker Paleo Joe visited and talked about dinosaurs
- Visited CMU and traveled to Millers Marsh for a hike and exploration of the wildlife at the Marsh
- Visit from Power Book Bags and each camper got at least 2 new books of their choice
- Played basketball with Coach Joe Callian
- Created Sasquatch sculptures
- Went on a foraging hike with Gina Mangra
- Learned a song from Baroque singers Matt & Karen Cook
- Put on a Pet/Talent Show on the last day.
- Enjoyed racing down the slip and slide between the Township Office and Convent Green
- Parents enjoyed some quiet time

These are only some of the highlights; the children made many crafty projects and a lifetime of Beaver Island memories!

Sincere Thank You and Gratitude to all who participated and especially:

- Camp Coordinator, Juli Runberg. Camp planning began last winter.
- Our Counselors were awesome. Gratitude to our staff. The camp had ten counselors creating a ratio of 4-5 campers per counselor.
- Community Volunteers who helped with activities and keeping track of campers

To our special guests:

- Shelby Harris, Beaver Island Archipelagos Terrestrial Invasive Species (TIS) Program Administrator
- Kara Gregory, Ph.D. Power BookBags President, Executive Director, and Founder
- Joseph "Paleo Joe" Kchodl, award winning paleontologist, author, and storyteller
- Janet Nank, Island Roots gardener
- Joe Callian, Basketball coach
- Gina Mangra, local foraging expert
- Matt & Karen Cook, Baroque performers
- Kevin Pangle & CMU Staff – Millers Marsh hike experts

SPONSORS:

Most importantly, thank you to our sponsors. Without your support, camp would not be affordable for many of our families.
The following Community Stakeholders provided lunches:

- Monday – Hodgeson Enterprises - Daddy Franks
- Tuesday – Dale & Theresa Keyes - Paradise Bay Coffee Shop
- Wednesday – CMU Biological Station
- Thursday – Beaver Island Community Center
- Friday – Beaver Island Historical Society & Community Potluck

Other honorable mentions:

- Beaver Island Community Schools – Venue Host
- St. James Township & Holy Cross Church – Community Picnic Venue

Funding made possible by:

- Charlevoix County Community Foundation
- Michigan Arts & Culture Council
- Island Airways
- Beaver Island Historical Society

Planning is already underway for 2025. If you would like to join our team as a camp counselor, camp coordinator, volunteer or to be a sponsor or presenter, please give our office a call 231-448-2254.

"THIS PLACE MATTERS" EIGHTH ANNUAL POTLUCK

By Lori Taylor-Blitz

The "This Place Matters" eighth annual potluck picnic was hosted by the Beaver Island Historical Society on August 18, 2024 at the Beaver Head Lighthouse. About 100 people gathered to enjoy a beautiful sunny day and one another's company. A tribute was given to recognize and honor Dickie McEvoy and his dream of restoring the Beaver Head Lighthouse. Many hands were raised when the audience was asked if Dickie ever asked you to join a work bee to clean up the grounds! A McEvoy Family raffle was held and all proceeds went to the lighthouse fund. An update of work completed was given. The volunteers were thanked for all their hard work painting, cleaning, and everything else. A special thank you to Charlevoix County for keeping the grass cut. A summary of the work planned for the interior was revealed with an anticipated part-time museum to open upon completion.

A special presentation was given by Anna Marck, an actor, portraying five female lighthouse keepers on the Great Lakes. Her act concluded with Beaver Island's Lighthouse Keeper, Elizabeth Whitney Williams. Her performance was enjoyed by all! Here is her contact information https://www.anna-marck.com/ if you would like to read more about Anna and attend some of her other appearances. We hope to see you next summer for our annual picnic on August 17, 2025. If you have any questions or suggestions for the lighthouse, please give the Historical Society (231-448-2254) a call and ask for Lori or phone the Charlevoix County Administration.

2024 BIHS KIDS CAMP- PICTURES SAY A THOUSAND WORDS

ISLAND RESIDENTS TURNOUT FOR A WORTHY CAUSE

By Frank D'Andraia

The 8th Annual Beaver Island Bocce Tournament returned to Peaine Township's Font Lake Park on Sunday August 11. Twelve teams participated in the event. A total of five courts were used, including three grass courts and the two oyster shell bocce ball courts that were installed at the park in 2023.

The champion team of Lisa and Mark Fanz, a Peaine Township based squad, won over Jon and Laurie Galia of Ann Arbor & St. James, who were the defending champions. The third-place winning team in the tournament was composed of Linda Wearn St. James & Detroit and Tom "Peanut" Reynolds of St. James & Florida of St, James.

Finalists received prizes, $50 dollars in Michigan Lottery Tickets (Win), a gift basket from the Beaver Island Coffee Company (Place) and imported Peroni Beer from Italy (Show).

Traditionally, bocce ball courts are built with materials such as sand, gravel, crushed stone, clay, decomposed granite, artificial turf or grass, and crushed oyster shell flour, or a blend of a few of these materials to top the playing surface.

The surface of the Font Lake bocce courts has three layers. The first two layers are sand and decomposed granite. The third and top layer consists of crushed oyster shell flour. This is because oyster shells are made of 98% calcium carbonate. Crushed oyster shells provide a tougher, compact surface due to the recalcification process. Recalcification allows the oyster shell powder to eventually fuse together forming a hard yet porous surface similar to coral reefs. The end result is a surface that offers a smooth roll and minimal bounce of the ball and more player control. The park's two oyster shell courts were adjusted to accommodate the available space and are 60 feet long and 10 feet wide.

Founded in 2016, the Annual Beaver Island Bocce Tournament has generated well over $12,000 for a variety of island organizations. This year the annual tournament benefited the Beaver Island Community Center/WVBI. The 2024 tournaments raised $2,500 for the BIC Center & WVBI.

The Annual Beaver Island Bocce Tournament is traditionally scheduled to coincide with Homecoming Sunday. In 2025, the Beaver Island Rural Health Center will be the recipient of tournament proceeds.

BLOOD DRIVE EXCEEDS GOAL

By Connie Wojan

Each summer blood shortages occur because of increased demand and fewer donors due to vacation plans. July is the busiest month of the year for Beaver Islanders. Yet this year's Rita Gillespie Memorial Blood Drive collected 71 units of blood, six units more than last year! All blood donors are heroes. We thank all who made the time in their hectic schedules to donate or attempt to donate. Each donation potentially saved three lives! Special thanks to ten brave first time donors who found out the process was much easier than they expected. We also thank the fabulous staff of Versiti who worked without breaks to make sure all donors were promptly processed.

Rita Mae Gillespie wife of Jewell Francis
Mother of –
John Wayne * Mary Sue * William
Francis * Bridget Anne * Robert Jewell *
Mary Teresa * Daniel Glen * Richard Lynn
* Julie Anne * Kathleen Marie * Gerard
Michael * Cynthia Rose * James Michael

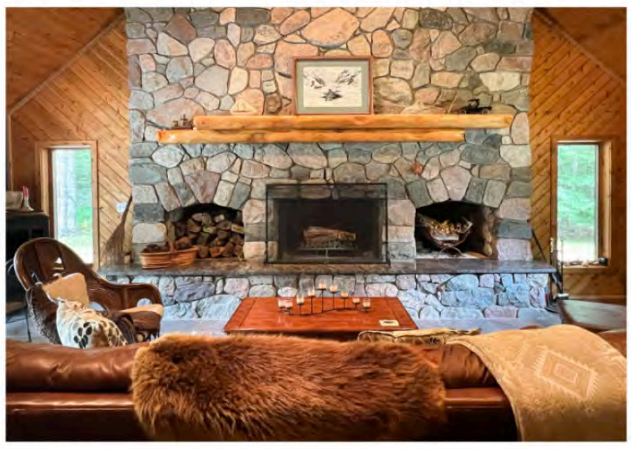
It takes more than donors to make a blood drive happen. Each year we rely on the generosity of those listed below whom either discounted or donated services:

- **The Beaver Island Christian Church-** Donated the use of the Gregg Fellowship Hall , **Island Airways** and the **Beaver Island Boat Compan**y - Discounted transportation costs.

- **Charlevoix County Transit**- Transported Versiti staff from Welke airport to the Christian Church free of charge.

- **Volunteer cookie bakers –** Beaver Island blood donors have learned to look forward to the wide variety of homemade baked goods that await them at the canteen after donation. A huge thank you to the many who gave of their time to make delicious treats again this year. Because of your efforts there was plenty for all including the hard-working Versiti Staff.

With sincere thanks,
Kellie (Gillespie) Sopczynski, Connie Wojan and Lisa Gillespie



BAY NORTH REALTY

38400 Deer Hollow Ct.
Beaver Island

Secluded yet minutes from town, this lovely home has 3 bedrooms, 2 full baths, and plenty of space for entertaining. This location is a short distance from North Shore Park, and Donegal Bay. There is a beautiful stone fireplace room, separated from the rest of the house by french doors with a bar area and slider to outside. Behind the fireplace is an attached garage for convenient wood storage. The main floor consists of an open kitchen/dining/living room with a laundry area just off the kitchen. Also located on the main floor is the primary bedroom with ensuite, and a dressing room, or small office. The two additional bedrooms, and bathroom are upstairs, with a large hang out area, currently being used as an additional guest room. The backyard features a nice deck and lawn for outdoor activities, along with a 20x24 building. The home sits on .8 acres and offers plenty of space for a garden with established apple trees. The large 2.5 car garage has an apartment above, providing extra space for guests, or a possible rental, or workspace. The garage has its own 200 amp panel, so there is plenty of power for your dream workshop!

Heather Robinson, Realtor

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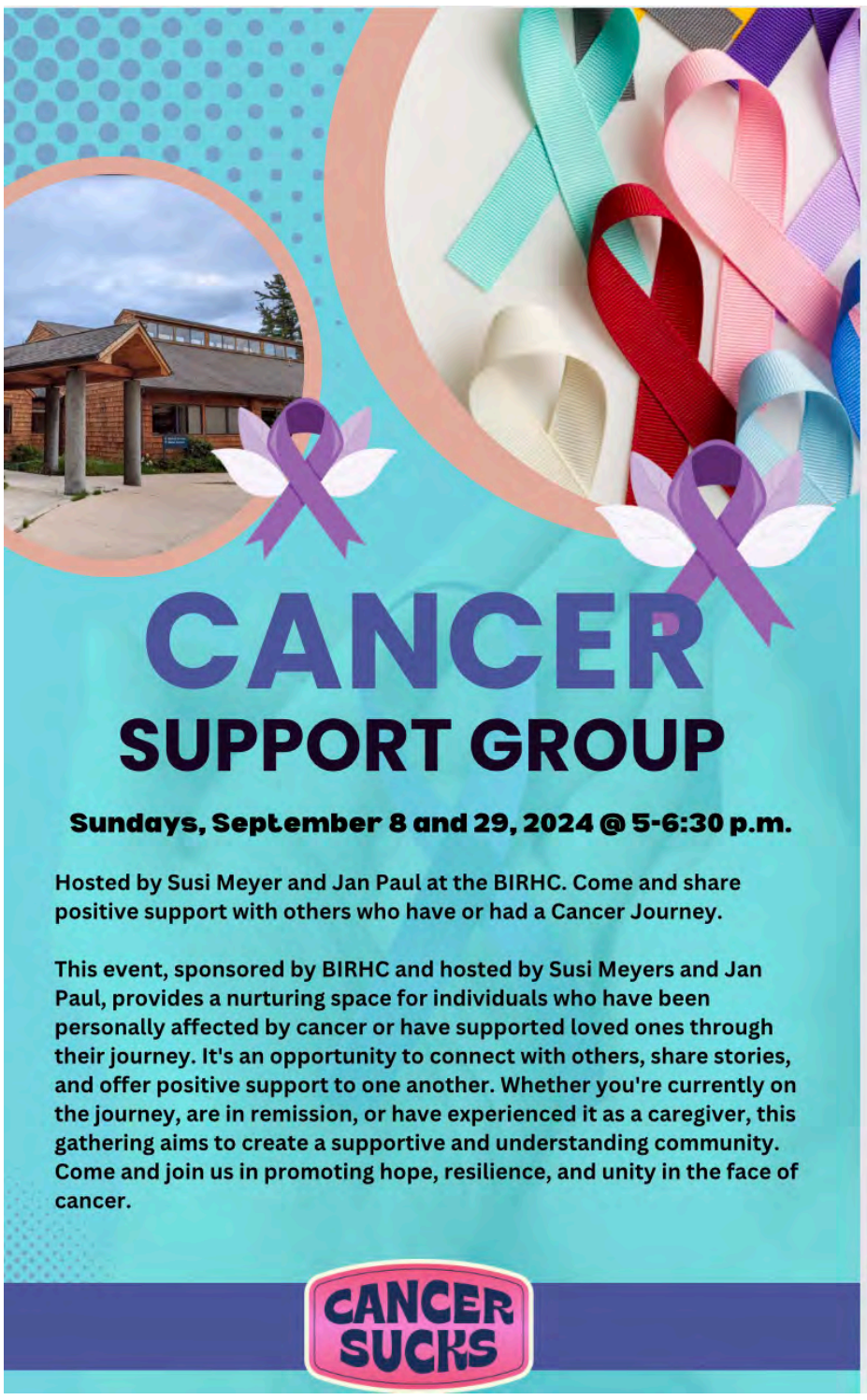
Heather@BayNorthRealty.com
www.BayNorthRealty.com
brokerage office: 231.622.3235


CANCER
SUPPORT GROUP
Sundays, September 8 and 29, 2024 @ 5-6:30 p.m.
Hosted by Susi Meyer and Jan Paul at the BIRHC. Come and share positive support with others who have or had a Cancer Journey.
This event, sponsored by BIRHC and hosted by Susi Meyers and Jan Paul, provides a nurturing space for individuals who have been personally affected by cancer or have supported loved ones through their journey. It's an opportunity to connect with others, share stories, and offer positive support to one another. Whether you're currently on the journey, are in remission, or have experienced it as a caregiver, this gathering aims to create a supportive and understanding community. Come and join us in promoting hope, resilience, and unity in the face of cancer.
CANCER SUCKS

Our brick & mortar is gone, but
HARBOUR BODEGA IS INTRODUCING BODEGA CATERING
Bodega Catering
A CULINARY ADVENTURE
Offering Full-Service Catering
Vicky Fingeroot will work with you to customize your menu and create the food and experience you want. Be sure to visit our newly designed website to learn more at www.HarbourBodega.com
Be sure to stop by and visit us at the Beaver Island Farmer Markets
Thursday's at the Farmer Market at Paradise Bay Coffee Shop
Saturday's at the Artisan Market at Whiskey Point Lighthouse
We will have Breakfast Burritos, Whitefish Pate, Yogurt Parfait and WOJ Salt
Join on the August 24th event Autumn Tastes of Beaver Island at the BIC
A Bodega Catering & Long Road Distillers multi-course seasonal food pairing event
Hire Private Chef
VICKY FINGEROOT
your go-to Caterer on Beaver Island
For More Information:
(231) 448-2857 / vickyfingeroot@yahoo.com
www.HarbourBodega.com Harbour Bodega BodegaCatering

BEAVER ISLAND RURAL HEALTH CENTER-PAYING IT FORWARD

Medical Staff Finesse Fishhook Fiasco

By Anonymous

Decades ago, when one of the families, who have made Beaver Island their "Walt Wojan " built seasonal home for some 60 years, had the opportunity to make a financial contribution in support of a growing rural health clinic, there was no hesitation to do so. Especially so given their own family ties to the Medical Profession. Just as they had done for many other community initiatives, this contribution was not being provided for their envisioned personal use or needs, but for the collective good of the Beaver Island community.

Although there have been other instances over the years when the clinic and its professional staff provided services to the family, it was this past May when the need for a community clinic of this type became even more personal.

While fishing on one of the Island's inland lakes, a fluke accident resulted in a hook being lodged into the side of the scalp of one of this family's sons. Since the hook included a barb, there was no easy or safe removal which could be completed by novice hands. It was quickly decided that an emergency trip to the clinic was necessary and the man was driven to the Center with the fishing lure and large hook still embedded in his scalp.

Upon arrival, Nurse Practitioner Joan Matejovsky quickly determined that the hook could not come back out in the same direction as it had entered and it was going to require surgical removal. Dr. Timothy King was still on the Island, but he was in the process of boarding a plane to leave. After being contacted by the BIRHC staff, his plans were changed and he immediately returned to the clinic.

After a brief examination, it was determined that removal of the hook would require that an exit incision be made, together with the necessary infection precautions. The remaining portion of the hook was then successfully removed and all parties were soon able to resume their day.

While this incident was far from the most life-threatening situation regularly faced by clinic staff, this selfless response brought to mind how our collective support of Beaver Island Public Services is important, even for those of us who spend more time thinking about our next return to the Island, than we do being personal beneficiaries of these needed community services.

BEAVER ISLAND RURAL HEALTH CENTER
CALL FOR CARING HANDS AND HEARTS!
THE BIRHC AND CHARLEVOIX COUNTY COMMUNITY FOUNDATION ARE PROVIDING AN OPPORTUNITY TO 4 SPECIAL PEOPLE FOR HOME HEALTH AIDE TRAINING.
HELP OUR SENIORS, VETERANS, AND/OR DISABLED WITH THE ACTIVITIES OF DAILY LIFE ESSENTIAL TO THEIR INDEPENDENCE.
APPLY BY SEPTEMBER 30TH AND START TRAINING THIS FALL!
STUDENTS WILL COMPLETE AT LEAST 75 HOURS OF TRAINING , INCLUDING AT LEAST 16 HOURS WITH A HOME HEALTH AGENCY, AND PASS A SERIES OF EXAMS MAKING THEM ELIGIBLE TO PRACTICE IN MICHIGAN.
ALL STUDENT EXPENSES, INCLUDING COORDINATED TRAVEL, WILL BE COVERED BY THIS PROGRAM.*
• ELIGIBLE STUDENTS MUST BE 18 YEARS OR OLDER, HAVE A HIGH SCHOOL DIPLOMA OR EQUIVALENT, PASS A SERIES OF BACKGROUND CHECKS AND A DRUG SCREENING, AND INTERVIEW WITH A SELECTION COMMITTEE.
• INTERESTED PEOPLE SHOULD PICK UP AN APPLICATION AND INFORMATION PACKET AT THE BIRHC OR EMAIL ANN@BIRURALHEALTH.ORG TO HAVE IT SENT VIA MAIL OR EMAIL.
* A NON-REFUNDABLE ADMINISTRATIVE FEE OF $250 WILL BE REQUIRED FROM THOSE SELECTED TO PARTICIPATE.
CALL 231-448-2275 FOR MORE INFO

NEWS FROM THE BEAVER ISLAND COMMUNITY CENTER

September at your Community Center is a transitional month, as we shift from the height of a busy tourist season and active performance series and ease back into a somewhat lighter calendar (with some notable exceptions!). But there's still plenty to keep you occupied at BIC Center, with highlights below and full details on the Community Calendar at biccenter.org.

Weekly Irish dancing lessons which began in late August continue into the first week of September, ending just before the fourth annual Emerald Isle Irish Feile on September 6-8. Some of the Feile's performances will take place at the Community Center, so check out irishfeile.com for a full performance schedule, or pick up a Feile program at our front counter.

Saturday movies resume on September 14 with two showings at 4:00 and 7:00 p.m., continuing throughout the off-season. The Dark Sky Sanctuary dedication happens in the theater the following week, and the weekend after that on September 28 singer/songwriter/guitarist Jim Bizer wraps up our performance season with a concert featuring a mix of jazz, blues, pop, reggae and more. Tickets available at store.biccenter.org. Our regular year-round programs carry on as well, so check out what's on the calendar, and we'll see you at the Community Center!

The 2024 Community Center's Sunset Gala: A Great Success!

This year's annual fundraiser for the Beaver Island Community Center was another elegant and fun-filled event for all those who came out to support your gem at the heart of a great community. We want to first thank the Beaver Island Lodge and Sunset Restaurant as our Sunset Gala venue and host, who went above and beyond in their indispensable support throughout the entire affair, through planning to staging and post-event efforts as well. We couldn't have done this without them, along with the many volunteers who staffed the bar, set up the grounds, and carted it all away afterward.

The same goes for our many donors and sponsors whose contributions made the auctions, raffles, and other special add-ons so richly appealing and rewarding for all those who attended. Our Golden Ticket Getaway package winners were Holly Hogarth (Mackinac Island), Angel Welke (Traverse City), and Judy Schwartz (Charlevoix). Congrats to these ladies, who will enjoy their perk-filled forays off-island.

175 attendees dined on fantastic catered food provided by the Wild Strawberry Cafe, Bodega Catering, and Thelma's, while listening to the wonderful sounds of our musical talent Abby Rose and Company, who may well return for a future engagement. A burst of rain and wind didn't dampen our Gala-goers spirits, who stayed past sunset and danced on the northern bluff as twilight came on.

BIC Center
Celebrate VARIETY 2024
MONDAY AT THE MOVIES
SEPTEMBER 14
4 PM IF
7 PM FLY ME TO THE MOON
SEPTEMBER 21
4 PM DESPICABLE ME 4
7 PM TWISTERS
FOR INFO ON OUR PROGRAMS AND EVENTS, TUNE IN TO WVBI'S COMMUNITY CALENDAR WEEKDAYS AT 9, NOON, 3, AND 6 OR VISIT CALENDAR. WVBI.NET
WVBI 100.1 FM
The Voice of Beaver Island
CELEBRATING DESIGNATION OF AN INTERNATIONAL DARK SKY SANCTUARY ON THE ISLAND
BEAVER ISLAND
STATE WILDLIFE RESEARCH AREA
INTERNATIONAL
DARK SKY SANCTUARY™
BEAVER ISLAND DARK SKY WEEK AUGUST 4 -12 | SANCTUARY DEDICATION CELEBRATION SEPTEMBER 20
darkskybeaverisland.org
Live in the Community Center Theater
JIM BIZER
SEPTEMBER 28 BIC Center 7:00 PM
HOURS: MON-THURS 9 AM TO 7 PM • FRIDAY 8:30 AM TO 7 PM • SAT 10:30 AM TO 7 PM

BEAVER ISLAND COMMUNITY REPORT ON THE INTERNET/911 OUTAGES

By Bobbi Welke

On August 13, 14, and 15, Beaver Island's TDS phone, internet, and 911 system failed. It is important for you to know what actions are taken when these outages occur.

- A Township official, on behalf of the island, and the director of the BI Rural Health Center both contact a governmental affairs official of TDS, who is based at their Madison, WI headquarters. TDS was informed of the failure and a request was made to know what the issue is and when will it be resolved? With the second failure in two days, this TDS official raised her concern to higher chain of command officials representing those involved with the problem. It was believed that the third failure lasted an hour, so no action was taken.
- Because 911 was also lost without our knowledge on August 13 and 14, the Township official and Health Center official both reached out the next morning to inform the Charlevoix County Emergency Manager (EM). Her Office of Emergency Management and the CCE 911 System are required to be notified by 911 providers when the system goes down. This did not happen during these two events. Their contact at the Federal Outage Reporting/Compliance Department was to follow up on this very troubling lack of reporting.
- When the 911 failure occurred on August 15, the County EM was notified by the 911 provider. She activated the protocols to inform officials on the mainland and on the island which includes both supervisors and our emergency responders. Our island's emergency "911 is down" protocol was enacted.

This resulted in the medical provider on-call at the Health Center to return to center and stand by for any incoming calls - from a land line to their 448-2275 number. It is believed in many, if not all, cases a cell phone should be able to reach 911 directly. This provider then would radio others to initiate a response. The on-call Paramedic was deployed to the East Side Fire Hall to be available to travel more quickly to the southern portions of the island in the event of a radio call from the health center.

- A better island-based 911 backup system is being investigated. More to come when this system is successfully developed and launched.

ANONYMOUS GIVER DOUBLES DONATIONS TO THE BIRHC- MORE THAN $65K RAISED

By Amy Marschner

In July an anonymous donor pledged to match donations up to **$25,000** to the Island's Rural Health Center.

The matching initiative was announced on Sunday, July 21 and in less than ten days the match was made and then some. **Just under $42,000** in gifts were received from local businesses and donors.

The anonymous match was presented by Bill McDonough, a longtime champion and supporter of the Health Center, during the annual donor appreciation reception held in the Health Center's Wellness Garden area on the afternoon of July 21. Approximately 60 donors were in attendance, as well as Health Center personnel.

"It's inspiring to see a local resident step up and encourage the giving spirit in other Island residents," said Frank D'Andraia, President of the Health Center's Board of Directors." Donations are the fourth largest revenue stream for the Center. The largest revenue source for the Health Center are grants, followed by millage, and patient fees. The Center's annual operating budget is $1,000,000 and donations matter, for gifts provide the Health Center with budget flexibility and stretch the HC's purchasing power in this era of inflation and the rising demand for medical services.

D'Andraia added, "Anonymous donors may have various reasons for wanting anonymity, including a desire for privacy and humility and we are grateful and believe it is essential to honor their wishes. While they didn't want to put their name out there, they were very excited to match everyone's gift, and make a difference for an institution valued by Islanders."

Island year-round and seasonal residents, as well as local and area businesses made the match possible. Ann Partridge, the Health Center's Managing Director noted, "We are particularly pleased to have received the support of all three transportation companies that service the island, for they are regularly used by the Health Center to ship equipment and to transport medical personnel to the island and for sending patients eligible for Good Samaritan Fund assistance to the mainland for specialized medical care.

We are indebted to the Beaver Island Boat Company, Fresh Air and Island Airways for helping the Health Center meet patients needs and adding flexibility to the Center's budget. Plus, the Health Center is obliged to McDonough's Market, which has worked closely with the Health Center to make sure that over-the-counter medications, protective masks, and coronavirus test kits were available during the recent resurgence of COVID. The market made a generous donation to the Health Center. In addition to the Good Samaritan Fund gifts, donations to the Center serve to support ongoing capital improvements, technological advancements and program enhancements to benefit general patient care. Doubling donations makes a difference to how the Health Center helps improve the quality of life on Beaver Island."

"Philanthropy," said Frank D'Andraia, "makes it possible for the medical center to build healthier communities here on Beaver Island. We are so grateful to the following donors for helping the Health Center meet the match requirements of our anonymous supporter:"

Beaver Island Boat Company
Dana & Frank D'Andraia
Fresh Air Aviation
Terry Hodges
McDonough's Market
Lu & Tim O'Connor
Rita & Craig Peirano
Emily Ruddell
Barbara and Don Spencer
Janee E. Boyles-Visel
Roberta (Bobbi) Welke
Other anonymous donors
George Broder
Karen & Tom Erhard
Barbara & James Haveman
Island Airways
Tammy & Bill McDonough
Ann Partridge
Jan & Dave Paul
Bev & Larry Seiford
Ann & Ray Stanhope
Leslie & James Visser
Carolyn & John Works

If you would like to donate to the Island's Rural Health Center, please make your check payable to the Charlevoix County Community Foundation and place BIRHC in the memo line and mail your check to: Charlevoix County Community Foundation, 301 Water Street, PO Box 718, East Jordan, MI 49727.

The Health Center is a 5013c not-for-profit organization and contributions are fully tax deductible.

2024 SUMMER BASEBALL PROGRAM IS A HOME RUN FOR ALL

By Sarah Siller & Kim Bousquet

While the baseball season came to an end, the memories that were created will last a lifetime for both the Island and visiting kids, parents, and our community. Baseball is a true "Americana" sport that helps to teach motor skills, hand-eye-coordination, and most importantly teamwork. Let's face it, there is nothing like summer to create a true Sandlot experience for our youth and Beaver Island delivered.

Throughout the summer, 35 kids participated ranging in ages 5-18 including both Islanders and visiting kids.

The program would not have been possible without the dedication and passion of our coaches Drew McDonough, Thayer McDonough, and Rob McPherson. Powering through the hot and dusty days, coupled with your full-time jobs, you effortlessly delivered a program that brought endless smiles to all involved.

A sincere thank you to all the parents, families, kids, and our outstanding community who have made a conscious effort to keep this league alive. The end-of-the-season potluck was wildly successful thanks to all the volunteers and contributors.

Lastly, THANK YOU to our donors. The program has raised enough funding to have the next two years' (possibly three) of the team shirts paid for. In the end, this equated to baseball being free for all those who join in the fun over the next few years!

Until 2025, enjoy the rest of your summer and we will meet again on the baseball field.

BIHS PRESENTS THE MASINI MCDONOUGH WELCOME DECK

By Lori Taylor-Blitz

The Beaver Island Historical Society is pleased to announce The Don and Kay McDonough Masini Memorial Deck in honor of Don and Kay McDonough Masini.

A ribbon cutting ceremony will be held to celebrate the new deck at the Marine Museum on September 6, 2024 at 10:00 a.m.

Kay Masini was an artist and teacher. Her graphic design won awards and her artwork has been chosen for several international exhibitions. Her husband, Don, was an officer of Wheel Horse Products out of South Bend, Indiana and then moved to Bloomington, Minnesota as part of its acquisition by The Toro Company.

Kay had deep connections to Beaver Island; she is the daughter of Sadie Gallagher Peternard and R. Bruce McDonough. Her ancestors are some of the Irish immigrants who settled on Beaver Island and helped develop the Island's maritime industry.

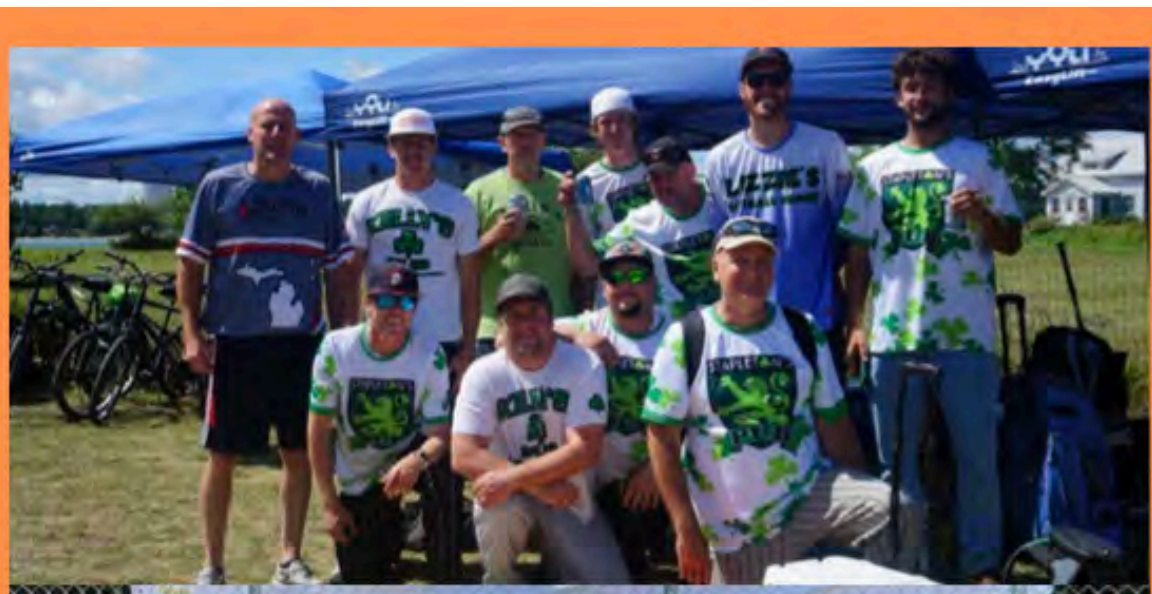
The 20 x 22 foot deck is located at the entrance to the Marine Museum. The deck is made of composite material. Wooden posts and netting were used to keep with the nautical theme of the museum. Kay Masini's artwork is etched onto a metal panel placed at the deck entrance.

This project was made possible through a generous donation by Phillip and Amy Burkart from California.

The Historical Society sincerely thanks Phil and Amy Burkart for the funds for this lovely new addition to our history.

2024 HOMECOMING - BEAVER ISLAND DELIVERS

SOFTBALL, MUSIC, KIDS CARNIVAL & CHICKEN DINNER



BI IRISH HERITAGE GROUP ANNOUNCES IRISH HALL OF FAME

By Kathleen McNamara

The Beaver Island Irish Heritage Group's board of directors is busy getting things ready for the 2024 Féile (September 6 and 7, 2024) which is sure to carry on the momentum established in 2023. There will be artists from Arranmore, County Donegal, Canada, U.S. and of course our amazing Beaver Island artists! In keeping with the festival's desire to maintain the link between Arranmore Island and County Donegal, musicians Jerry Early and Friends from Arranmore Island and renowned fiddler Caoimhin MacAoidh of Donegal has joined our lineup. Also on the schedule is the ever-popular Byrne Brothers who are making a big hit at festivals across the US and in Ireland. Hailing from Canada, The Tartan Terrors will make their Beaver Island debut, and they will prove to be a hit with their "Celtic Invasion", blending the energy of a rock show with humor and stepdance.

Beaver Island and Michigan performers make up a big part of our festival and reflect the festival's other goal of providing opportunities to showcase and support the Irish music scene associated with Beaver Island. To that end, the festival welcomes our local talent Danny Gillespie & Friends, Stay Happy Band, Ruby John, John Warstler and Glenn Hendrix - all these groups have been great at bringing on the next generation of Island musicians, too. The Gavin family came to festival in 2023 and we hope they never get tired of it! The Gavin family are from the Detroit area and are renowned traditional Irish musicians. Rounding out this amazing line-up is a Gaylord based group, the Pub Runners. The Pub Runners are a festival favorite and play at the Grotto Mass.

Step dancers and Céilí dancers will add a spark to the festival this year. Ardan Academy of Irish Dance will be sending dancers and they will be joined at different events by dancers from Beaver Island.

Festival board members, Linda Wearn and Bridget Martin, are training Beaver Islanders in the art of Céilí dancing so everyone will be ready for a 'Hooley in the Hall' on Friday and Saturday evenings.

New to the festival this year are BONUS workshops on Thursday afternoon that would be perfect for students and adults. All are taught by people from Arranmore Island and all are free to attend.

BONUS ACTIVITIES - Thursday, September 5 at the Convent Green No Charge:

Irish Mummers Drama Class @ 12:30 - 1:45 p.m. - History of the Mummers where attendees will learn about characters and rhymes, costumes, acting, casting and performing an age-old Irish tradition. This workshop is ideal for adults and students in grades 5 or 6 through high school. **Irish Dance Class @ 2 - 3 p.m.** - this would be appropriate for most any age group. Anne Connaghan is a teacher and musician and she will be teaching us how to do some basic Irish group dancing.

Gaelic Football Workshop @ 3:30 p.m. Jerry Early, of Arranmore will teach this workshop which is probably best for adults and students in grades 4 and up. According to the internet, "Gaelic football combines the suspense of soccer, the skills and scoring of basketball, and the speed of the fastest sports in the world in a free-flowing action-packed sport." According to Jerry Early it's the best sport in the world!

The Beaver Island Irish Heritage Group's board of directors hopes that everyone on the island can enjoy this annual event. For Information about how you can enjoy the festival even if you do not have a ticket.

For more information contact:
Kathleen McNamara
231-357-0231
emeraldisleirishfeile@gmail.com

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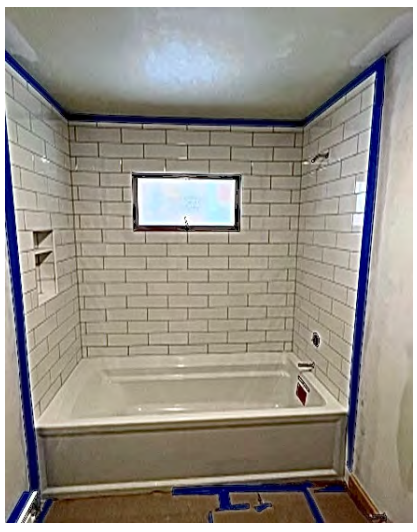

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Preston Herren: Preston@GreenwaldBC.com

Maura Turner: Maura@GreenwaldBC.com

Beaver Island District Library

Nibwaakaawin

SEPTEMBER IS NATIONAL FALL HAT MONTH

Wear your favorite fall hat to the library and let us take your photo. Then you will be entered into a drawing to receive a $10 gift card for hot chocolate or coffee at the BIDL.

Also, Sept. 15 is National Felt Hat Day! Have a felt hat? Double your chances to win the gift card by wearing your felt hat to the library on Sept. 15!

SEPTEMBER IS ALSO NATIONAL LIBRARY CARD SIGN UP MONTH

Don't have a library card yet? This month is National Library Card Sign-Up Month. Come in, sign up and start reading! It's FREE.

September 6th is National Read a Book Day. Get your favorite or find something new to read on this day!

SEPTEMBER IS NATIONAL AMERICANA MONTH

What makes us all Americans? Reflect on the elements of life in the United States that knits us all together and make us Americans!

MUSIC- ART- FOOD- SPORTS- EVENTS

OTHER NATIONAL DAYS IN SEPTEMBER

SEPT. 9: National Teddy Bear Day- Bring your teddy bear to the library and read a book to it!

Sept. 19: National Talk Like a Pirate Day- Find a pirate librarian to talk to at the BIDL! Stop in to pick up some Pirate Treasures of your own!

Sept. 28: National Hunting and Fishing Day- head out to the woods or water and enjoy the outdoors while hunting (small games opens **Sept. 15**) or fishing. Need a book to help! You know where to go!

Mary Scholl was at the Library to talk about her book, The Empty House, on August 5th. A small but attentive crowd listened to Mary talk about her book and life before making purchases which Mary graciously signed. Those who missed this book signing can still purchase the books at her Toy Museum.

Anne Pritchett was at the Library to read from her book, Crazy French Girl, on August 7

Rock Art with the Story Time Kids

Peace Pole Ceremony August 19

August was International Peace Month and to celebrate participants decorated peace rocks to place around the pole.

Kid Stuff!

Babies and Toddlers will continue this fall on Tuesdays at 10 a.m.

It's a great time to get the kids together in a play atmosphere and the parents have a chance to chat with other parents! Everyone is welcome!

StoryTime will move to 2:30pm on Tuesdays. StoryTime is open to homeschoolers, or kids between ages of toddlers and kindergarten. Tara Walsh creates programs for the kids around various themes including reading a book and doing an activity or craft. All are welcome there too!

~ Beaver Island ~
Seed Library

A note to those of you who obtained seeds this year through our seed library...please send us photos of how the seeds grew! Let us know your successes (and failures) so that we can better plan for next year. Soon, we will be letting you know how to harvest your seeds and prepare them for donation to the seed library!

Nasturtiums

Mammoth Dill

Indigenous Grandmothers to visit Beaver Island!

Five Grandmothers will be visiting the Island on the weekend of Sept. 13-16. On Saturday, the 14th, there will be a series of presentations beginning at the Beaver Island Community Center at 10 a.m. with a welcome ceremony. Following that, the Maori grandmothers will share their traditional songs and dances with the public. Afterwards, there will be a sharing of spiritual traditions including gathering, meeting, talking and sharing of food! (We hope we can have some of our traditional foods there to share). After lunch, we will move to the library where Flordemayo, a Mayan seed keeper, will continue with her tradition and helping the attendees to create seed bundles while answering questions about seed keeping and her traditions. We hope you will attend and welcome our five Grandmothers, Eila, Devi, Perci, Flordemayo and Moretu!

Teen Cafe will shift to once a month on the third Saturday of the month (Sept. 21 3-5 p.m.) Some meetings might include art projects or board games. Teens, make suggestions!

Library Pals will return with adults meeting with students from the elementary classes at school.

Coordinated with the teachers, they usually meet weekly with different classes for an hour or so. Any adults interested in participating contact the library.

LIBRARY FUN

fiero code

Fiero Code Club will continue into the Fall and Winter meeting once a week with the kids and adults who are interested in learning to code.

A new program will also start this fall called Web Developer Coding Bootcamp. Those (16 years old and up) who wish to learn coding at this level will attend weekly meetings to get support, be inspired, share and get at least one hour of coding done. Additionally, you should be able to do another 2-3 hours a week in coding at home. At the end of the course (120 hours), you will be able to apply for an entry level web developer position. (Average salary of an entry level web developer is $77,000). Stop at the library for more information and to sign up!

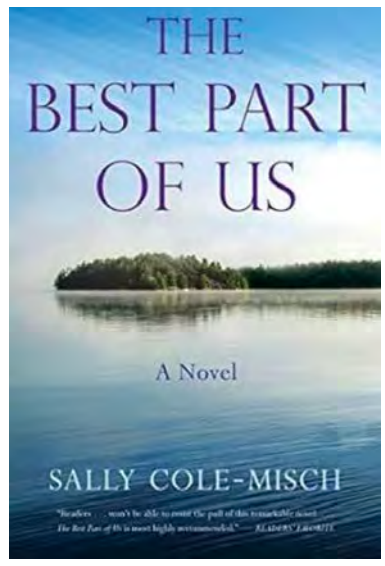
New Vocational Curriculum, New Features!

We're excited to announce a round of new advanced, vocational courses we've added to Fiero Code. These courses take students from a beginner with no experience to advanced coding skills they need to develop full-stack web applications and prepare for the job market!

These courses include:
- Front-end web development with React
- Back-end development with Node.js
- Version control with Git and Github
- Full-stack development with React, Node.js, and SQL
- Career development

We've also made improvements to the code editors which include:
- Full-screen mode: pop your web previewer out into a separate tab
- Image uploads

Dive back into Fiero Code and check out all of the new curriculum and features it has to offer!



BOOK CLUB READ FOR SEPTEMBER

Great Lakes, Great Read The Best Part of Us by Sally Cole-Misch, will be the September Book Club read. The book club meets on Sept. 18 at 3 p.m.

The novel explores a family's connections to an island in the Canadian waters of an inland lake just north of Lake Huron. A free webinar series will be held on Sept. 25, Oct. 2 and October 9, all at 7 p.m.

VOLUNTEER SPOTLIGHT

By Lois Stipp

Catherine Sowa Meintsma
You have seen this face in many places. Catherine Sowa Meintsma is a busy volunteer on and off our island. Her list of volunteerism accomplishments would be hard to match. Here is a short list:
Beaver Island Community Center Board
BICC Volunteer Coordinator
Emerald Isle Feile Board Member
Hospitality and Logistics Team Committee member
Calling of the Clans Committee
BIC School volunteer
BIHS Summer Camp Volunteer
BI Christian Church Sunday School Teacher
Holy Cross Altar Society
Holy Cross Religious Ed Director
Homecoming Comeback Crew
Wreaths Across America Location Coordinator for Holy Cross Cemetery and Township Cemetery
Friends of Beaver Island AmVets
COA
Rotary
Blue Star
If you see this smiling face, please, thank her for all that she does for our community.
You make a difference
Thank you!

BEAVER ISLAND ARCHIPELAGO TREASURE HUNT

By Gina Mangra

The Beaver Island Archipelago Trail Association organized its first island-wide Scavenger Hunt on August 16-18, featuring 15 prizes and four grand prizes from Island businesses. The hunt utilized Google Maps to find 15 GPS coordinates where participants had to find the prize pockets to claim a prize then post a picture on the Trails Facebook page. All 15 prizes were found and three grand prizes were drawn from the winners.
A bonus game was available for those who used the 'Our Treasurer Hunt' app, which provided historical clues about the island locations.

"SUPER job on the trail adventure. You rock!!!! I love the idea. Community prizes, good for all ages, and diverse trails with some history and sponsor recognition. You and your crew did phenomenal!" **Amanda Bedell**

"We had so much fun! Thanks for organizing this!" **Bridget Bittner**

"We had lotsa fun finding all the destinations on the scavenger hunt!! Thanks for setting this event up. We were thrilled to find the prize at Barney's Lake!!" **Rene Adrian Rogers**

I'd like to thank Beaver Island Community Center for allowing us to use the Center as home base as well as the following donors:

Bodega Catering
Wild Strawberry Café
St. James Pottery Studio
Beaver Island Community Center
Burton Car Rentals
Beaver Gems
Concrete Blonde
Beaver Island Golf Course
Paradise Bay Coffee Shop
Beaver Island Fungi Life
McDonough's Market
Powers Hardware
Beaver Island Historical Society
Whiskey Point Brewing Co.
Beaver Island Toy Museum
Beaver Island Coffee Company
Paradise Bay Gift Shop
Island Airways
Deb's Creations

THE BIWC RIFFLE RAFFLE NOW AVAILABLE

By Jacque LaFreniere

The Annual BIWC Rifle Raffle is now selling tickets- $10 each or 11 for $100, available through the board members (Mark and Jacque LaFreniere, Levi Connor, Bruce Beaudoin, John Earl Haggard, Sean Gallagher, Shelby Harris, Don Tritsch, Brian Antkoviak and Bob Turner). The drawing is at the Annual Harold Lounsberry Hunter's Dinner at the Shamrock on Nov. 16 . (Dinner starts at 6 p.m, and drawings begin at 7 p.m.)

Grand Prize is a Henry 22 Lever Action Rifle. Other prizes include a ½ day fishing charter with Kelly Day Charters, Bushnell binoculars, a pop-Up blind, fishing rod and reel, camping package (tent and sleeping bag), Buddy Heater, Buck knife, game call package (turkey, deer, coyote and waterfowl), and a $100 gift card to Cabelas. Need not be present to win.

Also, every youth (under age 18) who attends the dinner will receive, upon entrance, a youth raffle ticket for a chance to win one of 5 prizes including binoculars, fishing rod and reel, pocket knife, Daisy BB gun and a camping package (sleeping bag and tent). Additional tickets for the youth only raffle may be purchased at the door ($5 each, 6 for$25). Must be present to win.

The dinner is always a tasty treat with wild meats and lots of other items. See you there on Nov. 16!

MICHIGAN DNR UPDATE

Changes to the deer hunting regulations will have little effect to hunters on Beaver Island this year.

CHANGE: Muzzleloader season will allow any legal firearm to be used, not just muzzleloaders.

SAME: Liberty Hunt in Sept. and Independence Hunt in October remain the same, either buck or does may be taken. (Next year it will change to Antlerless only.)

Baiting Ban remains in effect for all.
No Late Antlerless on Beaver Island.
Combo license same- two antlered bucks.

SEPTEMBER 28, 2024

On the **fourth Saturday every September,** NHF Day recognizes generations of sportsmen and women for their contributions to the conservation of our nation's rich sporting heritage and natural resources. One of the main goals of National Hunting and Fishing Day is to recruit new hunters and anglers by encouraging participation and increasing public awareness of the connection between hunting, angling, and conservation. Through self-imposed fees and excise taxes, sportsmen and women have raised more than $57 billion--that's more than $100,000 every 30 minutes being raised for conservation. NHF Day is the largest, most effective grassroots movement ever undertaken to promote outdoor sports and conservation.

HOUSE TO TAKE ITS FINAL RESTING PLACE

A careful and coordinated effort to transport a house from town to its final destination was a success. Thanks to all who helped and were patient while it was in transit.

HARMONIZING BEAVER ISLAND

By Tara Palmer-Pop

Students from the Tunes program gathered for a lively morning at the Beaver Island Community Center, showcasing the skills they've honed during their spring sessions. From virtual fiddle lessons with instructors in Ireland to in-person guidance from local teachers Heidi and Paul, the children demonstrated that, despite the summer break, they've maintained their musical progress. Their enthusiasm and mutual support, cheering each other on and celebrating achievements, highlighted the effectiveness of the music education initiative on Beaver Island and affirmed that Tunes Music Makers is fostering a thriving musical environment.

If you would like to make a lasting impact and support the sustainable development and growth of Tunes Music Makers, a 501(c)(3) nonprofit organization, please visit www.givebutter.com/TunesMusicMakers. It's one of the best investments you could make for the young people of Beaver Island.

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BEAVER ISLAND ELKS LODGE #2886 GRAND OPENING OF THE MEETING AND SOCIAL HALL IS A SUCCESS

By Amy Marschner

Exalted Ruler Lori Taylor-Blitz officially opened the doors to the new lodge on Saturday, August 17 at the new Lodge building at 26205 Main Street. Elk members and their guests were welcomed with a ribbon-cutting ceremony, a potluck buffet, cocktails, entertainment, great company, and lots of smiles.

To arrive at this day has been a long journey for the eight dedicated Island Elks who first sought to be an Auxiliary Lodge to the Charlevoix Lodge in the fall of 2020. The Auxiliary Lodge became the fully instituted ELKS Lodge #2886 on September 25, 2021, with 48 Charter members and a full membership of 98. In the fall of 2022, the Lodge purchased 1.2 acres on the island for a future Lodge building but has since been able to enter into a lease agreement for their current building in January 2024. Since then, the building has been retrofitted to house the Lodge for monthly meetings and a social room for member activities. Our thanks to Patrick Nugent, Theresa Sirvaitis, and the many volunteers who contributed their skills, hard work, and time to the reconstruction of the building with a new bar, social area, and meeting spaces. We are now ready to enjoy our new space. On behalf of all members, thank you for all the help and dedication to make this Lodge possible in such a condensed timeframe with your time or monetary support.

Social hours are 3:00 p.m. to 9:00 p.m. daily except days of our Lodge meetings. Please remember that Elks cards are required for admittance and the purchase of beverages.

If you are friends with a member, ask them to bring you along to visit. If you are visiting the Island and are a member of another ELKS Lodge, stop by to say hello and help us welcome our new social room. If you are interested in becoming a member then please reach out to any current member. We look forward to seeing you and or you joining our mission: “Serve the People and Communities through benevolent programs, demonstrating that Elks Care and Elks Share.”

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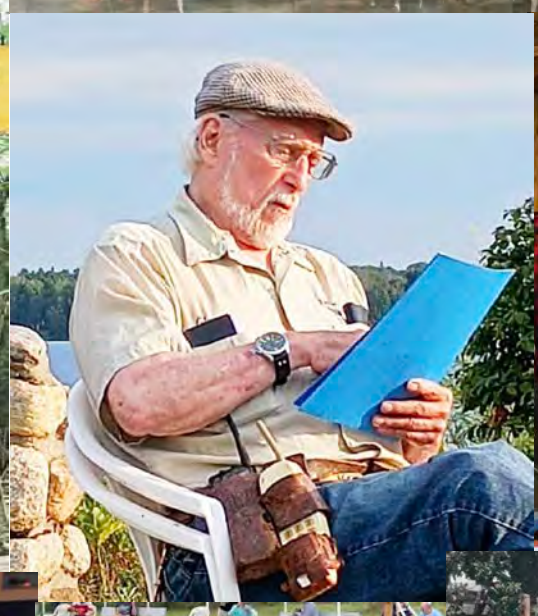
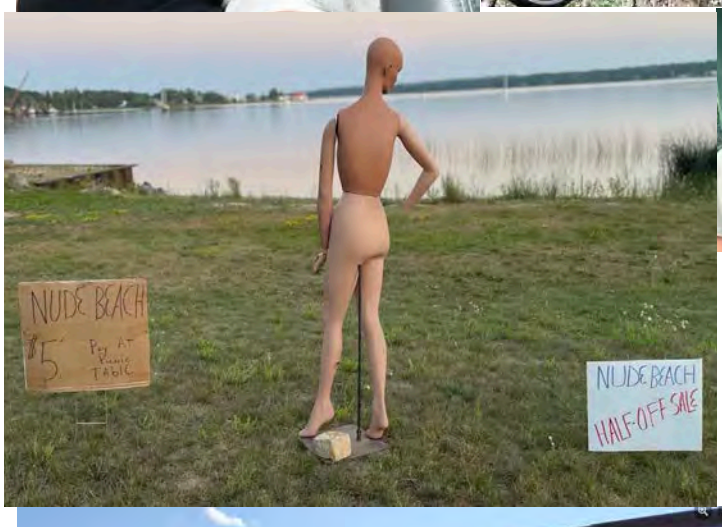




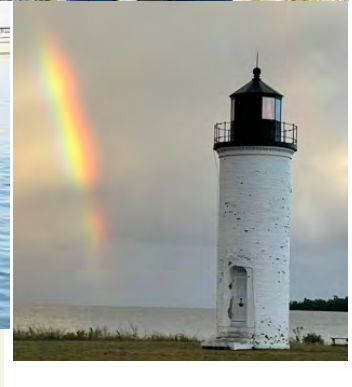


PHOTO CREDITS: George Broder, Becca Foli, Amy Marschner, BICC, BICS, BIDL ,Yvonne Crandall, Beaver Island Rocks

NORTHERN ISLANDER

September 2024

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
1 **9:00 am** St. James Episcopal Mission Sunday Worship **12:15 pm** Sunday Mass at 12:15	**2** **Dark Sky Event** **9:30 am** Summer Basic Flow Yoga **11:00 am** Therapeutic / Chair Yoga	**3** **9:00 am** Arthritis Foundation Exercise Program **9:00 am** Pickleball Outdoors **6:00 pm** Beaver Island AA Meeting	**4** **9:00 am** Peaine Township Planning Commission **9:30 am** Summer Restorative Yoga **10:00 am** Tending the Wellness Garden **5:30 pm** Committee of the Whole Meeting **7:00 pm** BINGO at Gregg Fellowship Center	**5** **9:00 am** Pickleball Outdoors **10:00 am** Women's Bible Study **5:00 pm** Burger & a Beer **6:00 pm** Beaver Island AA Meeting	**6** **Emerald Isle Irish Feile** **Hannahville @ BI volleyball and soccer** **8:30 am** Seniors + Vets Coffee & Donuts **9:00 am** Arthritis Foundation Exercise Program	**7** **Emerald Isle Irish Feile** **Hannahville @ BI volleyball and soccer** **9:00 am** Pickleball Outdoors **5:00 pm** Prime Rib Night **6:00 pm** Beaver Island AA Meeting
8 **9:00 am** St. James Episcopal Mission Sunday Worship **12:15 pm** Sunday Mass at 12:15 **5:00 pm** Cancer Journey Support Gathering	**9** **1:30 pm** COA Caregiver Wellbeing Seminar **6:30 pm** School Board Meeting **3:00 pm** BICC Board Meeting	**10** **9:00 am** Arthritis Foundation Exercise Program **9:00 am** Pickleball Outdoors **12:00 pm** Beaver Island Transportation Authority Board Meeting **6:00 pm** Beaver Island AA Meeting	**11** **10:00 am** Tending the Wellness Garden **5:30 pm** St. James Township Board Meeting	**12** **9:00 am** Pickleball Outdoors **10:00 am** Women's Bible Study **5:00 pm** Burger & a Beer **6:00 pm** Beaver Island AA Meeting	**13** **BI @ Ojibwe volleyball and soccer** **9:00 am** Arthritis Foundation Exercise Program	**14** **BI @ Ojibwe volleyball and soccer** **9:00 am** Pickleball Outdoors **5:00 pm** Prime Rib Night **6:00 pm** Beaver Island AA Meeting
15 **9:00 am** St. James Episcopal Mission Sunday Worship **12:15 pm** Sunday Mass at 12:15	**16**	**17** **Dark Sky Event** **BI @ Boyne Concord - Soccer only** **9:00 am** Arthritis Foundation Exercise Program **9:00 am** Pickleball Outdoors **1:30 pm** Beaver Island Waste management Committee **4:00 pm** BIA Board Meeting **6:00 pm** Beaver Island AA Meeting	**18** **10:00 am** Tending the Wellness Garden **7:00 pm** BINGO at Gregg Fellowship Center	**19** **9:00 am** Beaver Island District Library Board Meeting **9:00 am** Pickleball Outdoors **10:00 am** Women's Bible Study **4:30 pm** Beaver Island Telecommunications Advisory Committee meeting **5:00 pm** Burger & a Beer **6:00 pm** Beaver Island AA Meeting	**20** **BI Bay @ BI volleyball and soccer** **9:00 am** Arthritis Foundation Exercise Program **7:00 pm** Dark Sky Sanctuary Dedication **7:00 pm** Beaver Island Film Festival Short Films	**21** **BI Bay @ BI volleyball and soccer** **9:00 am** Pickleball Outdoors **1:00 pm** Beaver Island Film Festival-Marqueetownl **5:00 pm** Prime Rib Night **6:00 pm** Beaver Island AA Meeting **7:00 pm** Beaver Island Film Festival-Louder Than Love: Grande Ballroom Story
22 **9:00 am** St. James Episcopal Mission Sunday Worship **12:15 pm** Sunday Mass at 12:15	**23**	**24** **BI Volleyball Double Header @ Engadine High School** **9:00 am** Arthritis Foundation Exercise Program **9:00 am** Pickleball Outdoors **6:00 pm** Beaver Island AA Meeting	**25** **10:00 am** Tending the Wellness Garden	**26** **9:00 am** Pickleball Outdoors **10:00 am** Women's Bible Study **5:00 pm** Burger & a Beer **6:00 pm** Beaver Island AA Meeting	**27** **BI @ Mackinac Island volleyball and soccer** **9:00 am** Arthritis Foundation Exercise Program	**28** **BI @ Mackinac Island volleyball and soccer** **9:00 am** Pickleball Outdoors **5:00 pm** Prime Rib Night **6:00 pm** Beaver Island AA Meeting **7:00 pm** Jim Bizer in Concert
29 **9:00 am** St. James Episcopal Mission Sunday Worship **12:15 pm** Sunday Mass at 12:15 **5:00 pm** Cancer Journey Support Gathering	**30**					

For the most up-to-date island events please visit the BIC Calendar. We send our paper to print and dates are subject to change after.

https://biccenter.org/calendar/

ISLAND VISITOR BARELY AVOIDS DISASTER DURING 911 FAILURE

By Beat Reporter Bill Reed

At around 4:00 a.m. on Wednesday morning Nishtha Bhatia was awakened by a commotion in her Greenes Bay home here on Beaver Island. Her brother-in-law, who had been visiting with his family, was experiencing shortness of breath. He is in his 80's and was under the care of a cardiologist when at home. Alarmed family members were up and about trying to use Nishtha's landline telephone to call 911 for assistance. But insteadof reaching the emergency management system, because the TDS internet connection was down, their calls were being shunted over the local telephone system to the Beaver Island Rural Health Center general number. The BIRHC was closed at that hour, of course, and so they were confronted with the routine out-of-hours recorded message advising them to call 911 in case of emergency.

Luckily for all involved, Nishtha's family was able to escape a 911 doom loop. One of the family recalled that their Verizon cell phone would occasionally work from her home. That phone was eventually used to successfully connect to the 911 dispatch center and the Beaver Island EMS arrived ten minutes later. Nishtha's brother-in-law was ultimately evacuated by Island Air to Charlevoix and then by ambulance to Munson Medical Center in Traverse City. He was treated there and is now recovering at home.

What Nishtha Bhatia's family experienced was one frightening consequence of what had been a series of phone service outages that began on Monday August 12. For two days running, the TDS voice and internet service was down for periods of up to twelve hours at a stretch. In the following days, service was intermittently unavailable for shorter periods of time and this instability continued into the following week.

Beaver Island's 911 system employs TDS-provided internet service to connect emergency phone calls originating on Beaver Island to the CCE 911 dispatch center in Petoskey. Cell phone calls can reach help by alternate routes, but cell coverage can be spotty on the island and is effectively non-existent over large areas. Many island residents, including Nishtha, continue telephone landlines expressly for the purpose of maintaining an emergency backup to cell service. But when the internet goes down, the backup needs a backup.

Island Airways plays a pivotal role in providing emergency services on Beaver Island. They are alerted whenever the Beaver Island EMS is dispatched and monitor ongoing cases in real time to be ready for a medical evacuation if necessary. Staying in radio and text contact with EMS technicians at the scene of an emergency enables them to anticipate the need and prepare a plane to be ready to fly when the EMS ambulance arrives at the airport.

Emergency services on Beaver Island depend on an intricate web on telephone, radio and cellular communications to function. When a cornerstone element such as the internet ceases to function the entire edifice can fail, as it nearly did for the Bhatia family on August 14.

Critical actors in the system have recognized this vulnerability and taken action to ameliorate the risks of failures.

Angel LeFevre-Welke, CEO, reports that Island Air decided to replace their landline-based internet system with a Starlink satellite system several years ago. Emergencies aside, Island Air makes extensive use of its internet connections for its flight operations including reservations, passenger data, freight tracking and weather information. Virtually all the data on which their operations depend reside on servers in Charlevoix or in the web. Pilots on both sides of the mainland route routinely access live web cam visuals over the internet to check weather conditions and wind direction on the other side before they fly. In such circumstances, the interruptions in TDS service Island Air experienced were intolerable and so they switched. But their workaround is itself vulnerable to the power outages that have also plagued the island of late. A satellite communications connection requires reliable power to operate reliably.

The Beaver Island Rural Health Center is likewise highly dependent on a reliable internet connection to deliver both its emergency and routine health services to Beaver Islanders. According to Ann Partridge, Managing Director of the BIRHC, both essential administrative functions and the PACS (Picture Archiving and Communications System) the health center uses make extensive use of internet communications to function. For instance, X-ray images taken on Beaver Island are routinely transmitted over the internet to be read and interpreted by a radiologists based on the mainland. Patient prescriptions written by practitioners on the island must be transmitted over the internet to be filled on the mainland. When the internet is down, especially for extended periods such as happened in mid-August, health center operations are severely disrupted.

Like Island Airways, health center professionals have learned to improvise during outages. During the extended disruptions of mid-August they found that their AT&T cell phones were still working and could be used as hot spots to provide limited internet access. It was a poor substitute though and only just enabled them to limp along through the outages. To avoid this in the future, the BIRHC will also be converting to satellite internet. According to Frank D'Andraia, Chair of the BIRHC Trustees, the satellite service will be a bridge technology to be employed until fiber-based internet arrives on the island.

The widespread disruption experienced on the island as a result of the internet outages prompted Township Supervisor Bobbi Welke to quickly contact TDS. A Government Affairs official there asserted that the mid-August service interruptions resulted from failures in an AT&T link between the island and the mainland. Contacted by the Northern Islander, an AT&T spokesperson reported that their central monitoring had not indicated any failures in the Beaver Island microwave link and confirmed that there is only one such link to the island. The Northern Islander is attempting to discover how AT&T cell service could be working if their only link to the island was down.

Following their report to Bobbi Welke, Angie Dickison, a TDS State Government Affairs Senior Manager responded to Northern Islander inquiries. She states:

"Earlier this week, our third-party backhaul provider identified a problem with its circuit design for the backhaul paths to both islands, which has been causing these service disruptions. To address this issue, the third-party provider is developing a new engineering plan to enhance the reliability of our services and prevent future backhaul outage occurrences. This proactive approach aims to enhance the reliability of our services and ensure such disruptions do not recur…In the meantime, our advanced technical teams are continually monitoring the links to both islands. We are committed to resolving outage issues as swiftly as possible."

As the Northern Islander goes to press, TDS has not responded to our inquiry regarding the identity of the "third-party". Nor has AT&T either confirmed or denied they are the "third-party".

MEMORIAL GOLF TOURNAMENT

By Amy Marschner

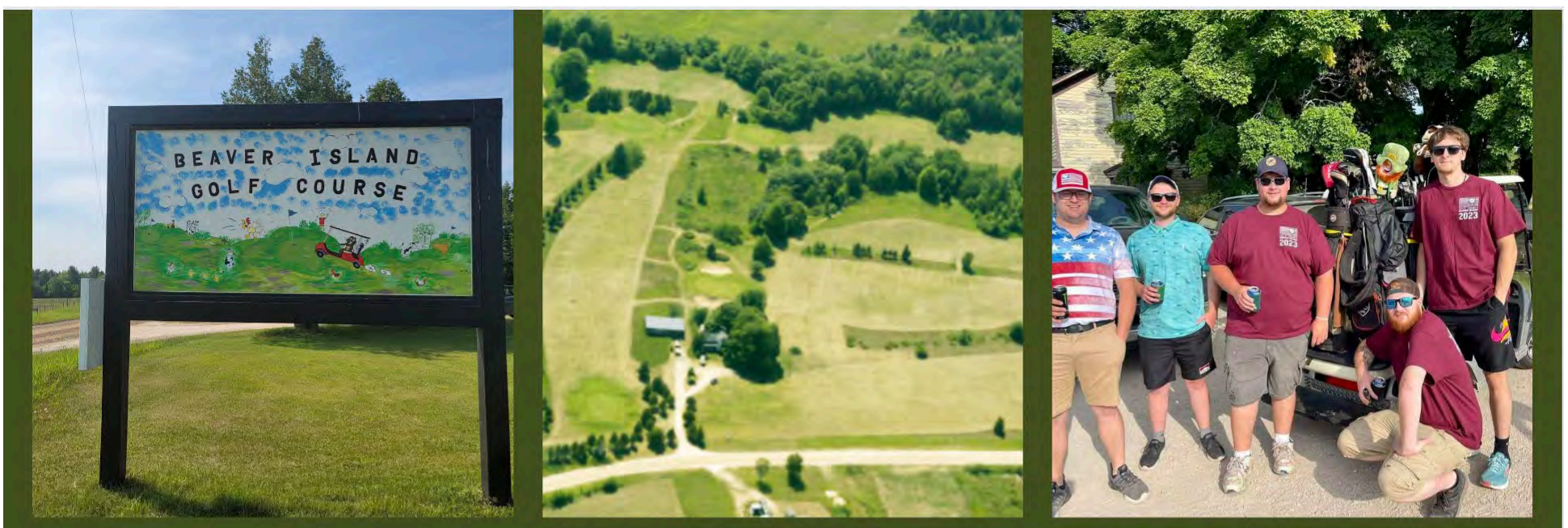
August 10 was the second annual Beaver Island Memorial Golf Tournament! On this day, participants honored our community members, golf enthusiasts, friends, and family who are no longer with us. The team appreciated all those who took time out of their busy Homecoming weekend to remember the loved ones we lost, play golf, and create new memories.

There were several ways to recognize a loved one or friend during the tournament:
Sponsor a hole - $50 Signage will be made with your loved ones' names and posted on the tee box, holes may have multiple sponsors.
Walk of honor brick - $100 We will commission bricks with each of your loved ones or friends' names on them. We will be constructing a Walk of Honor, built with these bricks, and added to for years to come, thus memorializing your loved one as a "permanent member" of the BI Golf Course.
Sponsor & Brick- $125 Sponsor a hole and receive a brick.

A portion of the proceeds will be donated to a Beaver Island organization which will be announced within the next few weeks. They will continue to take donations with the end goal being a tribute to beloved ones who will enjoy the honor of being a forever part of the golf course. Thanks from the Beaver Island Golf Course to everyone who contributed donations and participated in the tournament. Mark your calendar for Homecoming 2025 to honor those we love, play some golf, and create new memories.

A very special thanks to our generous memorial hole sponsors, as well as our sponsors for the longest drive and closest to the pin.

Huge congratulations to our winning teams!
Men's Team: Bryan Doughman & Andrew Wright
Women's Team: Mary King, Terry Meany, Carolyn & Meg Works
Mixed Team: Lynn & Chris Wise, Gray & Dawson Shaw



SHUFFLEBOARD SISTERS HOST BOIS BLANC

By George Broder

The competition was fierce when the Beaver Island Shuffleboard Sisters hosted the ladies team from Bois Blanc in a rematch at the Shamrock. Upping their game from last year's contest at the island near the Mackinac Bridge, the Sisters won the third and seventh matches.

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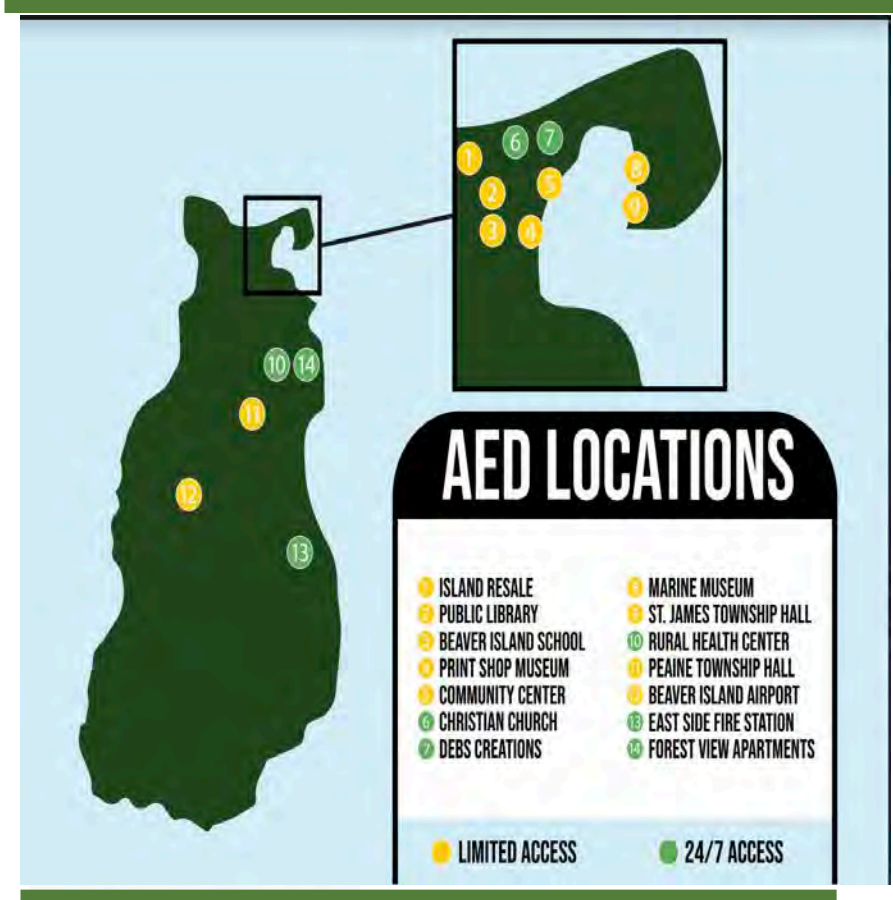
Below is a map of the island showing the physical locations of the AEDs. Please also note the color coding the provides the type of access available. Thanks again to the Island Treasures Resale Shop and the contribution you each make with supporting their efforts!



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ANDREW STEBBINS

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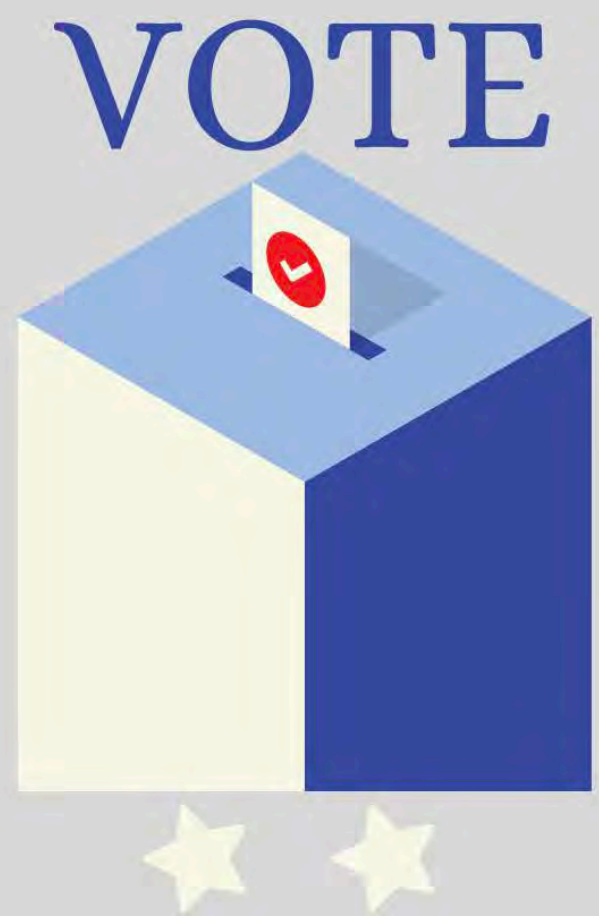

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FATHER FREDERIC BARAGA VISITS BEAVER ISLAND

By Russell M. Magnaghi

Who was Frederic Baraga and why is he important to Beaver Island? Fr. Frederic Baraga (1797-1868) was a Catholic missionary, grammarian and author of Christian poetry and hymns in Native languages. He was also the first Bishop of Sault Ste. Marie and Marquette for 15 years (1853-1868) .

He was ordained a priest in 1823 and, in 1830, arrived in the United States at the request of Bishop Edward Fenwick of Cincinnati to minster to his growing flock and especially in the vast missionary region to the north in Michigan territory. Fr. Baraga studied the Odawa language and in May 1831 was sent to Cross Village (L'Arbre Croche) to minster to the Odawa who had been evangelized by Jesuit missionaries earlier and finish mastery of the language.

Frederic Baraga

Fr. Baraga learned of a community of Native People on Beaver Island eighteen miles across Lake Michigan on the horizon from an Odawa man who reached Cross Village and was baptized. He told Baraga that the Odawa would welcome him and word was sent that Baraga would soon visit them. Although some doubted the success of his mission, he set out. His canoe approached the island flying a white flag with a red cross in the center announcing "the coming of the minister of the Crucified." The Odawa elder hoisted his flag and people waited on the shore and saluted Baraga with a celebratory double shot from their guns.

The Odawa greeted Baraga shaking hands and conducted him to their village of 18 dwellings while the people gazed at the black robe, having never seen a priest before. The site of Baraga's arrival has been commemorated with a large cross on the northwest corner of the island.

Photo credit: Jacque LaFreniere

The next day the Odawa called a grand council, where Baraga "briefly and clearly pointed out to them the necessity and utility of the Christian religion" while the head chief announced that his people "most earnestly" would embrace the Christian religion. Over the next weeks, he instructed the people and, on May 25, he baptized 19 and a birch bark chapel was built dedicated to the Blessed Virgin Mary. However, some traditional Natives visited Baraga and told him that they would not give up their traditional culture.

When Baraga was gone ministering to other Native communities, the non-Christian Indians on Beaver Island threatened the baptized people and promised to burn a larger chapel if it were built. Baraga returned, bringing with him enticing gifts: striped shirting, small scissors, needles, thread and a large quantity of tobacco, things which they coveted "with an envious greed." After repeated visits and continuous distributions of such articles, the traditional Odawa yielded. A large church was built away from the "obdurate pagans."

Fr. Baraga brought Christianity to the Odawa of Beaver Island and neighboring islands like Garden where he visited and instructed the Odawa over time. He also was the first chronicler to provide us with accurate information about the Odawa and the environment on the island. Over the years Baraga took time to visit the island and oversee the development of Christianity on Beaver Island for both the Native People and the Irish settlers under a variety of pastors.

[Dr. Russell Magnaghi history professor emeritus at Northern Michigan University 1969-2014, is the author of numerous books on Michigan and especially the Upper Peninsula. In the last few years he has visited Beaver Island and presented a number of well-received talks.] 08-07-2024

Editor's Note: In November, 15-year-old Russell Snider will lead his Eagle Scout troop as they cleanup the path entry to the cross and install sitting benches. Story to come in the December issue.

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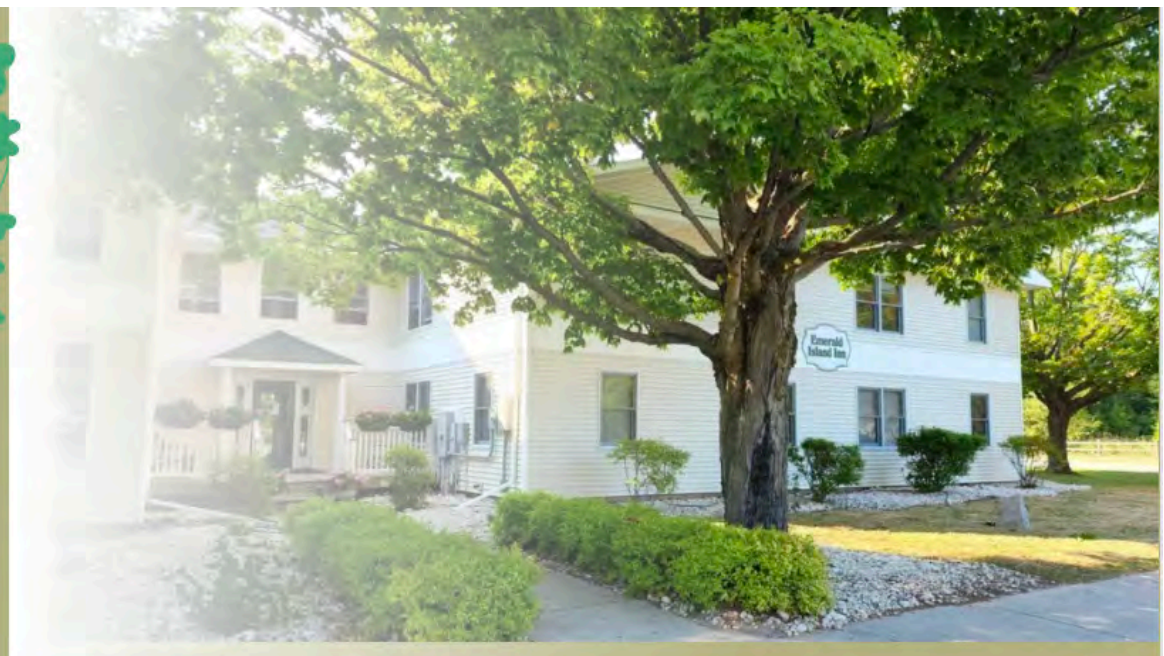

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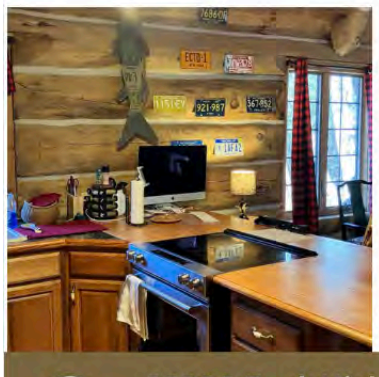

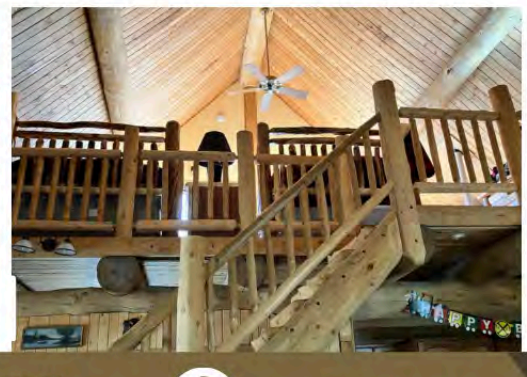

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STORIES FROM THE FRONT PORCH- MEET KATHLEEN

By Michelle LaFreniere

Ever wondered about the beautiful home with the gorgeous decks by the post office? I am often asked, “Who owns that house?” I was able to tag along recently with my friend Shirley to her Aunt Kath’s house for morning coffee. We weren’t the first ones there. A nephew and his wife were just leaving. They joked with each other about the first and second shifts. I had picked up a small container of donut holes to go with coffee. I briefly thought about bringing cinnamon rolls, but I thought better of it. One does not show up at someone’s house with store-bought cinnamon rolls who are reputed to make the best homemade ones in town. I was a little embarrassed because she had a cookie jar on the table with yummy homemade oatmeal raisin cookies. (My favorite - how did she know?)

With the recent passing of her sister Grace, Kathleen Gatliff Wood has been unwillingly given the title of Matriarch. Kathleen is the 12th child of 13 born to Mary McDonough Gatliff and her husband Tom. Her mother gave birth to those 13 kids from 1918 when Corneil was born to 1942 when Ann was born. She is the only one left of her generation. She was raised in the house where Paul and Shirley Cole reside now. Her mother was well known for her tennis shoes, aprons, and her ability to recite poetry. Kath says her mother could recite poetry well into her 90’s. In later years she would ask for the first word and then be able to rattle them right off. Linda and Carol Lee recited one of her poems while we sat there. It is so nice to hear those things today.

Despite the many sorrows she has endured, she remains upbeat, positive, and extremely witty. We spoke briefly of her greatest loss. In addition to losing her husband Glenn many years ago, she lost her oldest son a few years ago, in a tragic car accident. Chad always always had the biggest and best smile, and he adored his mother. No mother should outlive her children. She is very loved by all of her nieces and nephews and of course her children and grandchildren.

In the short time I was there two more nieces stopped in on their morning walk (and stayed till noon), an old friend and his two grandsons, and a great-great nephew and his friend. All were offered a cookie and a hug. One child was gluten-free, which, it turns out, at Aunt Kath’s house is no big deal because .. drum roll please.. in the corner of the living room stands a beautiful wooden treasure chest. It is filled to the brim with treasures for children of all ages. The kids headed right for it as soon as they were given the go-ahead. Clearly, she keeps up with all of their lives. She asked young Ciaran Wearn, aged 5 1/2 , about his family’s recent camping trip and the highlights of that.

We talked about her beautiful home and how it came to be. She and her late husband bought the house in the mid-1970s. They owned another place on East Side Drive, but the kids hated it. They wanted to be in town, close to Grandma, and cousins. Shirley said there are 42 first cousins and when they sat and added up Mary Tom’s descendants it came out to an even TWO HUNDRED! Holy smokes.

The house was exactly like the one across the street, (Jon and Suze Bonadeo’s) They were offered both for one price by the then-owner who was eager to sell. Owning a home downstate, and the one on the East Side coupled with the ones in town, proved to be more than they comfortably wanted to invest. They chose to purchase just one. They have added on, remodeled, and added decks. It is all so beautifully appointed. The mermaid and the sailor on the front of the house were carved with a chainsaw by a young woman visiting from East Jordan.

Kathleen is very funny and engaging. She teased me more than once and gullible me believed every word she said. She has the best laugh, a sound I heard many, many times throughout our visit.

We talked about everything under the sun, from the weather to the secret ingredient in the coffee (it’s not whiskey!), to the beautiful Waterford Crystal displayed throughout. The bar was added a few years ago, and is a gathering place for the family, as is the beautiful deck out front. Lots has happened here. A great-niece even got engaged out front during the 4th of July parade a couple of years ago. Everyone knew except her!

In re-listening to our interview I smiled to myself, you can hear the clink of the cookie jar opening many times, and Kathleen encouraging everyone to eat up, because she had more dough to bake.

We laughed about the antics of the kids in the house over the years.. so many kids, so many generations, so many shenanigans.

One thing about living here, and growing up here, is that no matter where in the world you go, you will find others with connections to the island and its people. Everyone there had a story to share about that. We shared many stories about true wealth and it didn’t have anything to do with money. Many families here were poor and struggled financially in years gone by, but they were rich in a hundred other ways. Kathleen has no shortage of stories about people and places that are long gone. I really need to get back and record some of them. I am very blessed to know and love Kathleen. I really need to visit more often.

In the words of Brian Cole .. “take the time”. Thanks, Shirley, for sharing one of your greatest treasures, and Thanks Kathleen, for the laughs, the cookies, and the visit.

Dark Sky Sanctuary Dedication Ceremony September 20

By Cythnia Hector Johnson

The Beaver Island Association, in conjunction with the Beaver Island Dark Sky Project, has set the date for a dedication ceremony to mark the establishment of the Beaver Island State Wildlife Research Area, International Dark Sky Sanctuary.

September 20, 2024, at 7 p.m. at the Beaver Island Community Center, community members can attend the ceremony featuring dark sky speakers from Headlands Dark Sky Park, TK Lawless Dark Sky Park, Michigan Dark Sky Chapter, and Chicago’s Adler Planetarium.

The ceremony marks the dedication of the sanctuary as the twentieth dark sky sanctuary in the world and one of only nine in the United States. Afterward, everyone is invited to the Whiskey Point Lighthouse for a dark sky, star gazing event to enjoy the area without streetlights.

The event is free but you must book a ticket on the BICC website where there is an opportunity to donate to the Dark Sky Fund. For more information, contact the BICC Center, at 231-448-2022.

THE POLLINATOR GARDEN

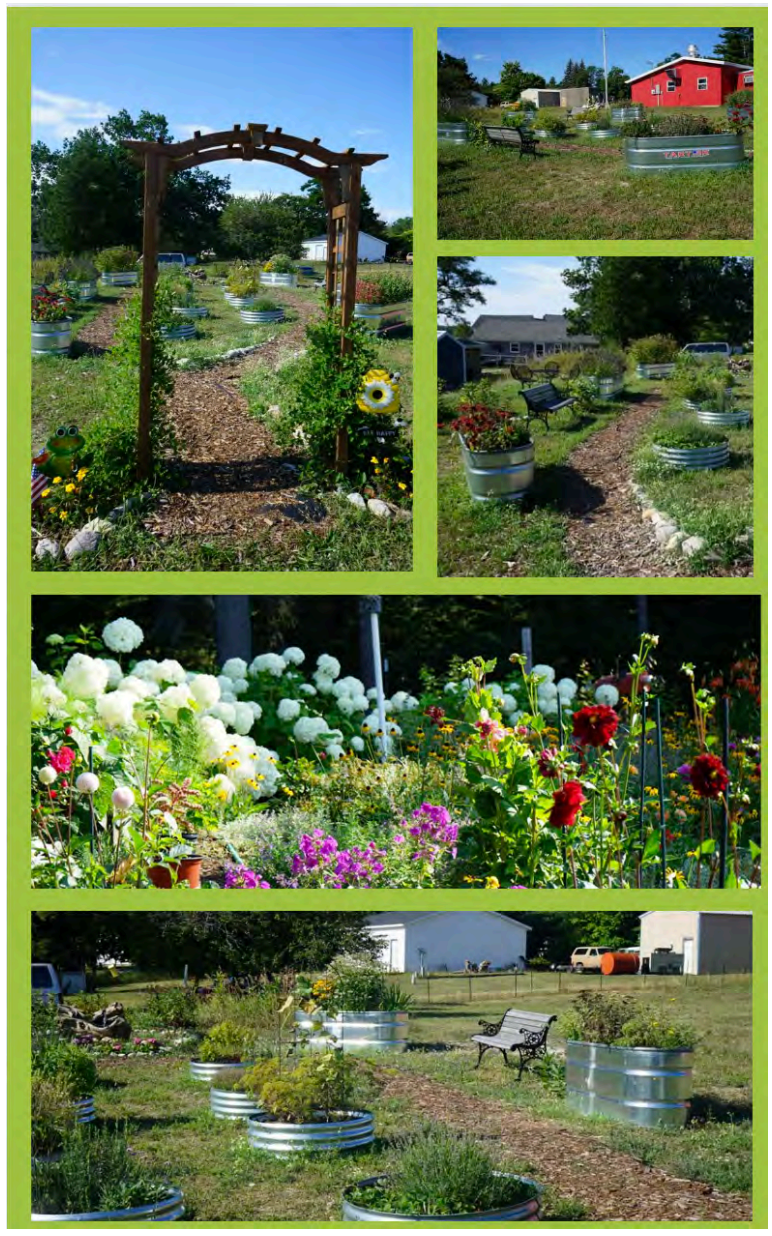
By Juli Runberg & Sally Stebbins

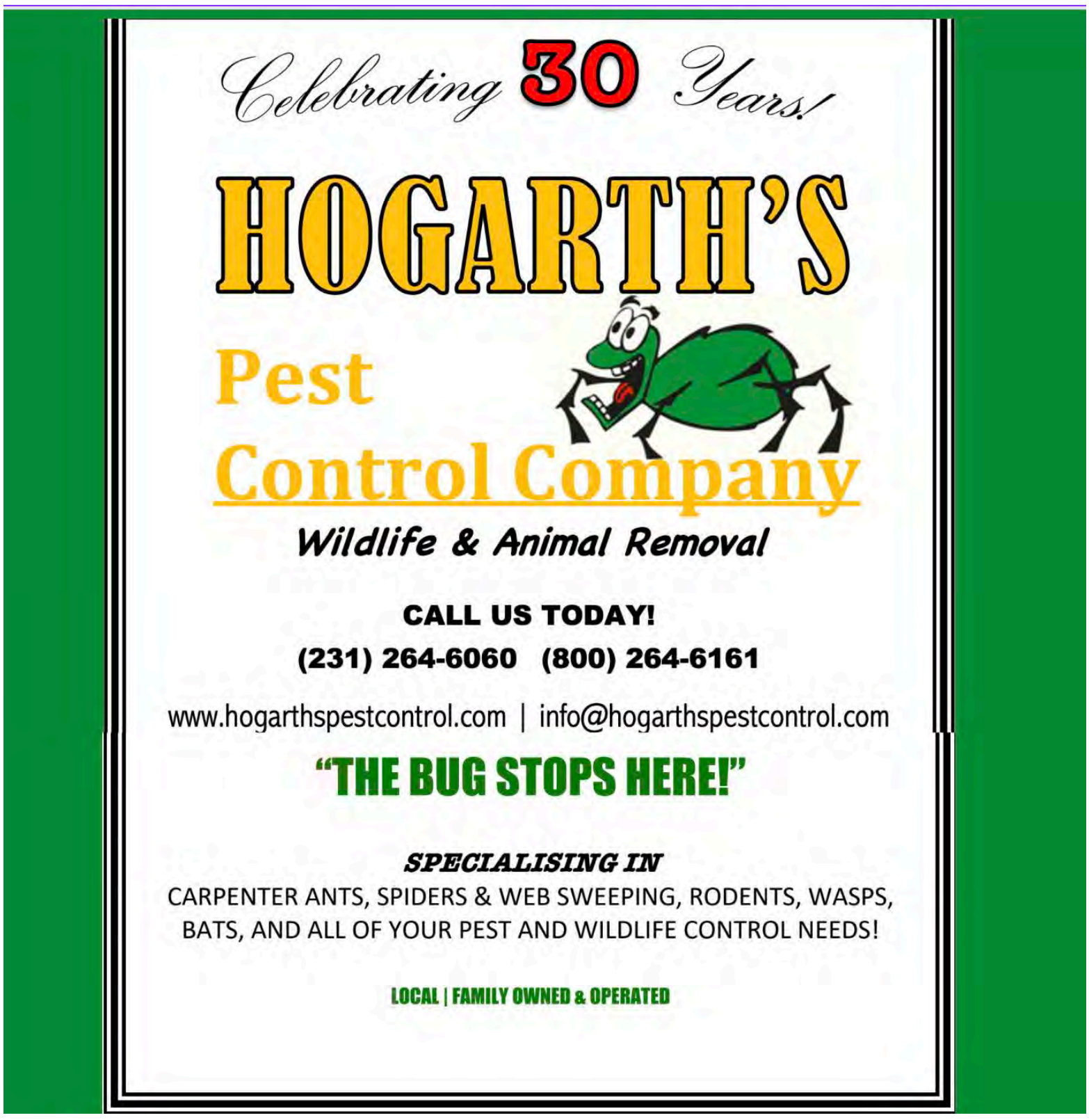
What is a pollinator garden? It's a garden of plants that attract and sustain pollinators. Like bees, butterflies, birds, hummingbirds, and other pollinator insects. It also includes plants that provide food for caterpillars. Why many of our pollinators are in danger is because of the loss of natural habitat (plants), development of land, pesticides, and disease. Many plants, including food plants, depend on pollination to set seeds. Pollinators are critical for food production, healthy ecosystems, and the overall well-being of the planet and its inhabitants.

The garden behind the Print Shop Museum was created by volunteers and The Island Roots Garden Club. It was partially funded by grants written by Lori Taylor-Blitz, director of the Beaver Island Historical Society. After the garden troughs were drilled for drainage, they were put in place and leveled. They were planted lasagna fashion: branches on the bottom layer, a layer of leaves next, planting soil on top with fertilizer. The Island Roots Garden Club took this on in the spring of 2023, on a grassy lot behind the Print Shop.

The troughs of plants were mulched in the fall and we collected and saved seeds from the plants. In the spring, plants were assessed and some new ones were ordered from a native plant nursery in Traverse City, called Four Seasons Nursery. This year we moved some plants around and planted four new round fire rings. We put in a pizza garden, pickle garden, and mint garden. The milk-weed plants that are everywhere are especially wonderful volunteer plants.

Island Roots was started in 2022 by Eileen Woolford. It has been kept going by Juli Runberg and Sally Stebbins.

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STATE AND FEDERAL OFFICIALS FAILING BEAVER ISLAND

By Kevin Boyle

Last month we explained where we were in the BEAD Grant process and the fact that, because of maneuvering by TDS, the Island is likely to be ineligible to participate in the largest communications funding program in our nation's history. Ironically, even as TDS works to thwart the Island's BEAD Grant opportunity, it once again demonstrated why so many on the Island want an alternative. TDS-provided phone, internet and 911 service was down for a good part of Monday and Tuesday, August 13 and 14, and has been failing repeatedly since then though for shorter periods. As it has in the past, TDS blames the problem on services provided by AT&T. In the midst of these outages at least one Islander was franticly trying to get help via 911 for a person in distress at their home but could not get through on a landline. Luckily, someone went outside and managed to get a call through using a mobile phone.

Fortunately, help arrived, but the Island should not have to rely on good fortune. Instead, Islanders should be able to count on TDS delivering the services it already receives millions of our tax dollars to provide. While TDS wants to blame AT&T for the failure, the fact is that they are the company obligated to deliver the service. They've had multiple problems with AT&T in the past, but have apparently taken no steps to arrange a backup or replace AT&T with a more reliable options. They dally while Island lives hang in the balance.

So, what are our elected representatives doing about this? We reported last month that we were reaching out to them to seek assistance in assuring that the Island would be eligible for BEAD Grant funding. Although staff from our U.S. Senators' and U.S. Congressman's offices arranged calls with us and listened with empathy to our report of the Island's communications issues, they ultimately offered no forceful assistance in addressing the issue. While one office suggested they were looking to arrange for "backup" funding under BEAD in the event TDS failed to build fiber on the Island, there really is no way that can be accomplished. We provided a clear path forward by showing how, as a matter of law, TDS has not made the commitment they are required to displace BEAD Grant funding. However, none of our representatives seemed willing to advance this view with the Michigan Broadband Office (MIHI) that is taking the action that will disqualify the Island.

Given the recent 911 and related service failures, we have written to our elected representatives once again making very clear to them who will be to blame should a future 911 failure lead to injury or death should they fail to secure BEAD Grant eligibility for the Island. A copy of our letter is available online at beaverislandassociation.org/broadband.

While we are pulling out all the stops to argue for BEAD Grant funding for the Island, we are very cognizant that we are not likely to be successful. Accordingly, we've continued our work to map a path forward for an Island funded project (that would also involve the need to raise some of the funds through non-telecom grants and donations). We have met with leaders of other community built fiber projects and are working to complete a business plan for a community owned project. After the rush of summer has passed, we plan to organize community meetings to review these options.

In the meantime, the "Pools of Service" project to bring better service to key Island locations is back on track after experiencing issues with obtaining equipment. If you visit the Community Center and use the Internet there, you'll experience a taste of the service that the BIA/JTAC Beaver Island Broadband Consortium is working to make available. The plan is for improved service not only at the Community Center, but also at the Township offices, the St. James Governmental Center, the Historical Society, The Health Center, Library and the municipal marinas. When finished, the project will include a new microwave link to the UP with access to a backup link to the LP. The target is for 100x100 Mbps service that will be available for public use with easy access at both the BIC Center and the Library.

BroadbandBI
Connecting Beaver Island to the World

Separately, PFN is proceeding with its plans to connect the UP and LP with a fiber link that is expected to land on the Island's north and east shores with fiber built across the island to connect those landings. Alongside that, the school, library and CMU are looking at additional fiber connections that, for now, will serve only their locations, but that could be come part of a wider Island network.

While we are discouraged about our BEAD Grant standing and the failure of our elected representatives to meaningfully address what is a very plain safety issue, we believe we will be able to present a reasonable alternate path to fiber on the island for public consideration.

CHARLEVOIX COUNTY
MICHIGAN

CHARLEVOIX COUNTY COMMISSIONERS
SYNOPSIS AUGUST 14, 2024

The Charlevoix County Board of Commissioners met in the Charlevoix County Commissioners room on August 14, 2024, at 9:30 a.m. Five Commissioners were present. Excused: Chris Christensen

Motion approved the agenda as amended.
Motion approved the consent agenda as presented.
Motion approved Resolution #24-083, Grandvue Operating Transfer.
Motion approved resignation from the Charlevoix County Veterans Affairs Board.
Motion withdrawn to approve appointment of John Bush to the Charlevoix County Veterans Affairs Board.

Motion approved declaration of vacant seat on the Grandvue Board.
Motion approved appointment of Marilyn Cousineau to the Grandvue Board.
Motion approved to appoint Leah McGuire to attend the annual MERS conference.

Motion failed to remove Cindy Banner from the Charlevoix County Parks Advisory Committee. Nays – Commissioners Hankins, Kenney, Conway, and Chamberlain.

Motion approved Resolution #24-084, 2024/2025 P.A. 416 Grant Application.
Motion approved Resolution #24-085, Application for Funds.
Motion approved Resolution #24-086, Adopt Addendum to the Corrections Contract.
Motion approved Resolution #24-087, FY2025 Salary Schedule.
Motion approved Resolution #24-088, Public Hearing Notice.
Motion approved Resolution #24-089, Notice of Closeout Public Hearing Michigan Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) Funding for Emergency Home Repairs.

Motion approved Resolution #24-090, Downtown County Building Parking Lot.
Motion approved Resolution #24-091, Health Department of Northwest Michigan Parking Lot.

Commissioner Hankins moved to go into closed session pursuant to MCL 15.268 Section 8(e) at 10:10 a.m., seconded by Commissioner Chamberlain. The meeting was adjourned to
the call of the Chair at 10:38 a.m.

Complete copies of Board minutes can be found on the County website, www.charlevoixcounty.org.
Julia A. Drost, County Clerk

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By Joseph Slaney

Rose of Arranmore
The seventh of September
of two-thousand twenty-three,
a blessing to remember
in the island's history.

Amid cheers and ovations,
off the ferry in noon's light,
they marched forth in formation
with their snare drums and bagpipes,

and what joy from shore-to-shore,
as the band played with ardor,
and our "Rose of Arranmore"
rang clear across the harbor!

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BIA INITIATES VEHICLE REMOVAL BLIGHT PROGRAM

By Craig Peiarno

The Beaver Island Association has many initiatives in our effort to support and advocate for environmental and economic sustainability. Our latest initiative is combating blight on Beaver Island. Proposed by Paul Cole and led by Craig Peirano, we're thrilled to share that progress is already being made. Craig shares the latest on the Blight Initiative in the article.

Removing Eyesores and Protecting Our Environment

The Beaver Island Association (BIA) is taking proactive steps to address blight caused by broken-down or abandoned motor vehicles on our beautiful Island. These vehicles not only mar the landscape and affect property values but also pose environmental risks due to leaking oil, radiator fluid, transmission oil and other liquids used in these vehicles. The BIA's effort is to eliminate these eyesores and safeguard our Island and natural resources for the future.

Environmental Impact and Groundwater Contamination

Abandoned vehicles often leak fluids, which can seep into the ground and potentially contaminate groundwater wells. This poses a serious threat to our island's water quality. By removing these vehicles, we can prevent further harm to our precious freshwater sources. The BIA has launched a no-cost program to assist vehicle owners and property owners in the removal of blighted vehicles from their Beaver Island properties. Here's how it works. The program follows state-approved guidelines for the removal and disposal of these eyesores. This ensures that the process is environmentally responsible and legally compliant. Whether or not the vehicle has a title, this program will assist vehicle owners and property owners with the removal of blighted vehicles. This flexibility allows us to tackle the issue comprehensively through an agreement with a mainland-licensed Michigan scrapyard.

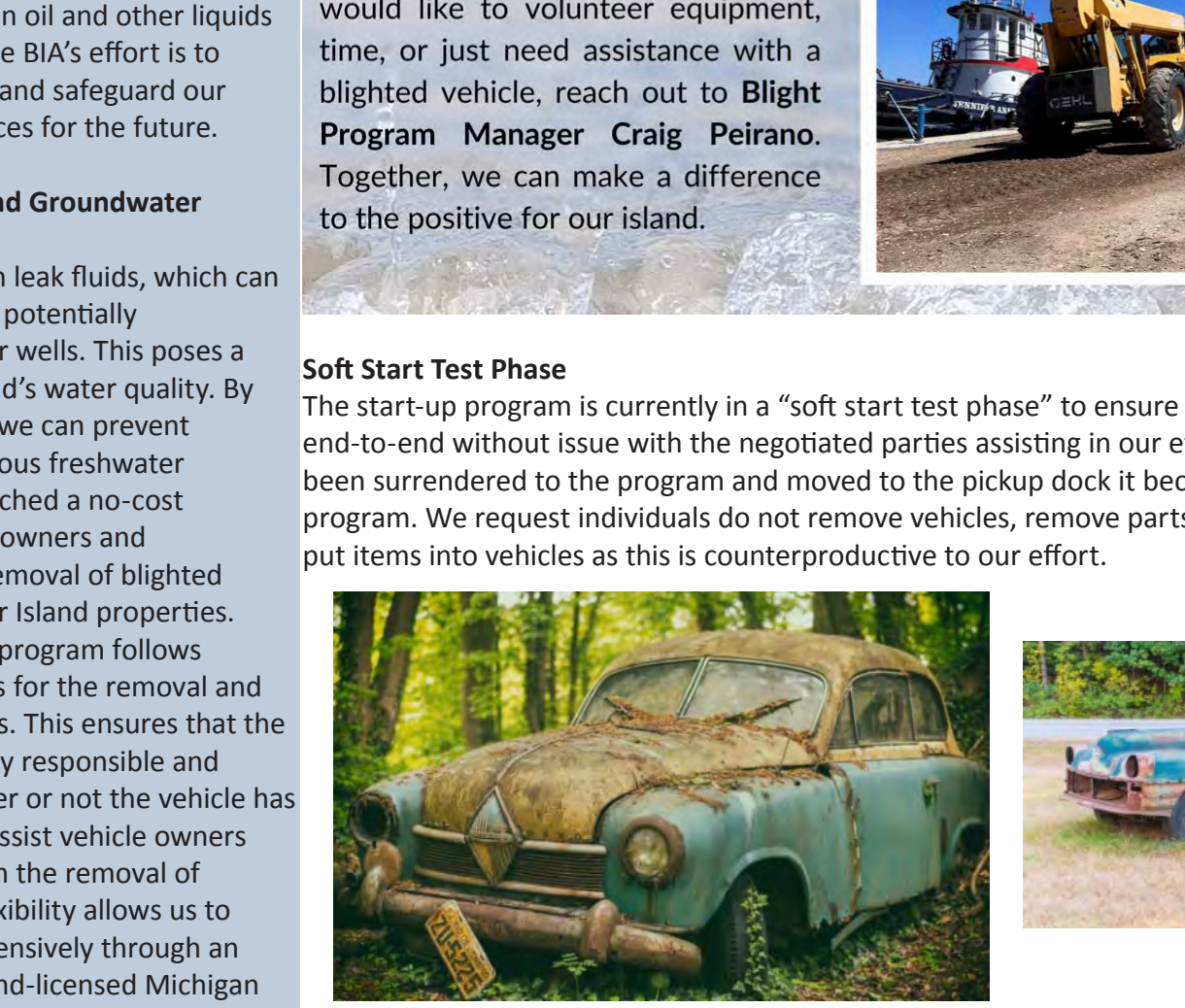
BIA
Beaver Island Association
Supporting Environmental and Economic Sustainability

Through our **Blight Initiative**, the **BIA** has launched a **no-cost** program to assist vehicle owners and property owners in the removal of blighted vehicles from their Beaver Island properties.

If you're passionate about preserving Beaver Island's natural beauty and would like to volunteer equipment, time, or just need assistance with a blighted vehicle, reach out to **Blight Program Manager Craig Peirano**. Together, we can make a difference to the positive for our island.

Soft Start Test Phase

The start-up program is currently in a "soft start test phase" to ensure the program can function end-to-end without issue with the negotiated parties assisting in our effort. Once a vehicle has been surrendered to the program and moved to the pickup dock it becomes property of the program. We request individuals do not remove vehicles, remove parts from vehicles, and do not put items into vehicles as this is counterproductive to our effort.



TRIED AND TRUE FAMILY RECIPES

Michelle LaFreniere's Cheeseburger Chowder

By Rach Becker

EACH MONTH, WE WILL BE FEATURING RECIPES THAT ARE SURE TO HAVE YOU COMING BACK FOR SECOND HELPINGS. THE RECIPES THAT WE GREW UP WITH AND STILL MAKE TODAY.

As we lean into autumn, days are getting shorter, and maybe the first hint of sweatshirt weather is upon us. This soup is a quick fix for those nights you need something hearty and warm. It has been a favorite for Michelle's kids, Charlie and Emily, as well as their friends. This is relatively mild, as it is. But for those of you that want an extra kick, you can add canned jalapeños instead of the green chiles, or the fiesta nacho cheese cheddar soup, instead of the cheddar cheese soup.

CHEESEBURGER SOUP
BLASTA!
IRISH FOR DELICIOUS
1/2 POUND GROUND BEEF
1 CAN (10 3/4 OUNCES) CONDENSED CHEDDAR CHEESE SOUP, UNDILUTED
1 3/4 CUP WHOLE MILK
1 CUP FROZEN SHREDDED HASH BROWN POTATOES
1 CAN (4 OUNCES) CHOPPED GREEN CHILES
1 TABLESPOON TACO SEASONING
1 TABLESPOON DRIED MINCED ONION
1/2 TEASPOON CHILI POWDER
OPTIONAL: COARSELY CRUSHED CORN CHIPS, SHREDDED MONTEREY JACK, AND CHOPPED GREEN ONIONS.
IN A LARGE SAUCEPAN, COOK BEEF OVER MEDIUM HEAT UNTIL NO LONGER PINK; DRAIN. STIR IN THE SOUP, MILK, POTATOES, CHILES, TACO SEASONING, ONION, AND CHILI POWDER UNTIL BLENDED. BRING TO A BOIL. REDUCE HEAT; SIMMER, UNCOVERED FOR FIVE MINUTES OR UNTIL HEATED THROUGH. GARNISH WITH CORN CHIPS, CHEESE, AND GREEN ONIONS, IF DESIRED.

The U.S. Coast Guard Cutter SPAR (WLB-206) is a 225-foot buoy tender with the hull number 206. It was seen enjoying a scenic moment in the High Island harbor on August 14. Photo courtesy of Mike Volovar/Keith Grassmick

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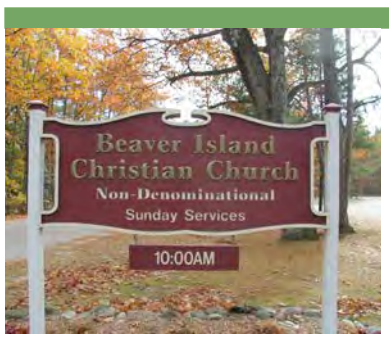
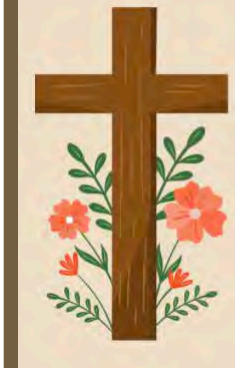
BEAVER ISLAND CHRISTIAN CHURCH NEWS

By Judi Meister & Sue Oole



faith



Pastors for September

9/1: Paul Scaringi
9/8: Jeff Badgero
9/15: Dave Martin
9/22 & 9/29: Josh Johnson

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SEPTEMBER 18: CALLER IS JOHN FIEGEN

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BEAVER ISLAND AURORA BOREALIS

By Cynthia Hector Johnson

It is no big secret to local residents of Beaver Island that Aurora Borealis, The Northern Lights, is a delight in the internationally recognized dark sky sanctuary. Bortle class 2 dark skies, with average Sky Quality meter readings of 21.8 on the darkness scale, and the recent uptick in solar storms has made photographing the lights in glorious locations on the island a snap for local night sky photographers and visiting astrophotographers.

While many island photographers have successfully captured stunning images of the Aurora in past years, this year's all night brilliant G4 geomagnetic storms have made those photo journeys even better. Many of those photos have been featured on a popular facebook page, Michigan Aurora Chasers.

May 10 and August 11, 2024 were some of the largest storms in history and Aurora was captured over much of the United States. The delightful collection were all taken on August 11-12 as Lady Aurora "danced" over the island skies in a rare exhibit that spread from McCauley's Point eastward, north, and westward all the way to the middle of High Island at Donegal Bay. While Aurora can usually be found by looking North, this particular storm sent shimmering waves of magnetic energy and colors visible to the naked eye overhead on the entire island.

If you follow the Beaver Island Dark Sky Project facebook page, you can usually find more photos of these events and the activities of the group as they continue to protect our dark skies and prevent light pollution. More solar storms are already on the way and expected to continue throughout 2024, and possibly into 2025, with the strength of the storms diminishing as the 11-year cycle starts dwindling down to normal.

Find out more about the Beaver Island State Wildlife Research Area International Dark Sky Sanctuary by visiting their facebook page at beaverislandassociation.org and at darkskyisland.org. There is also a complete webpage about the sanctuary at www.darksky.org.

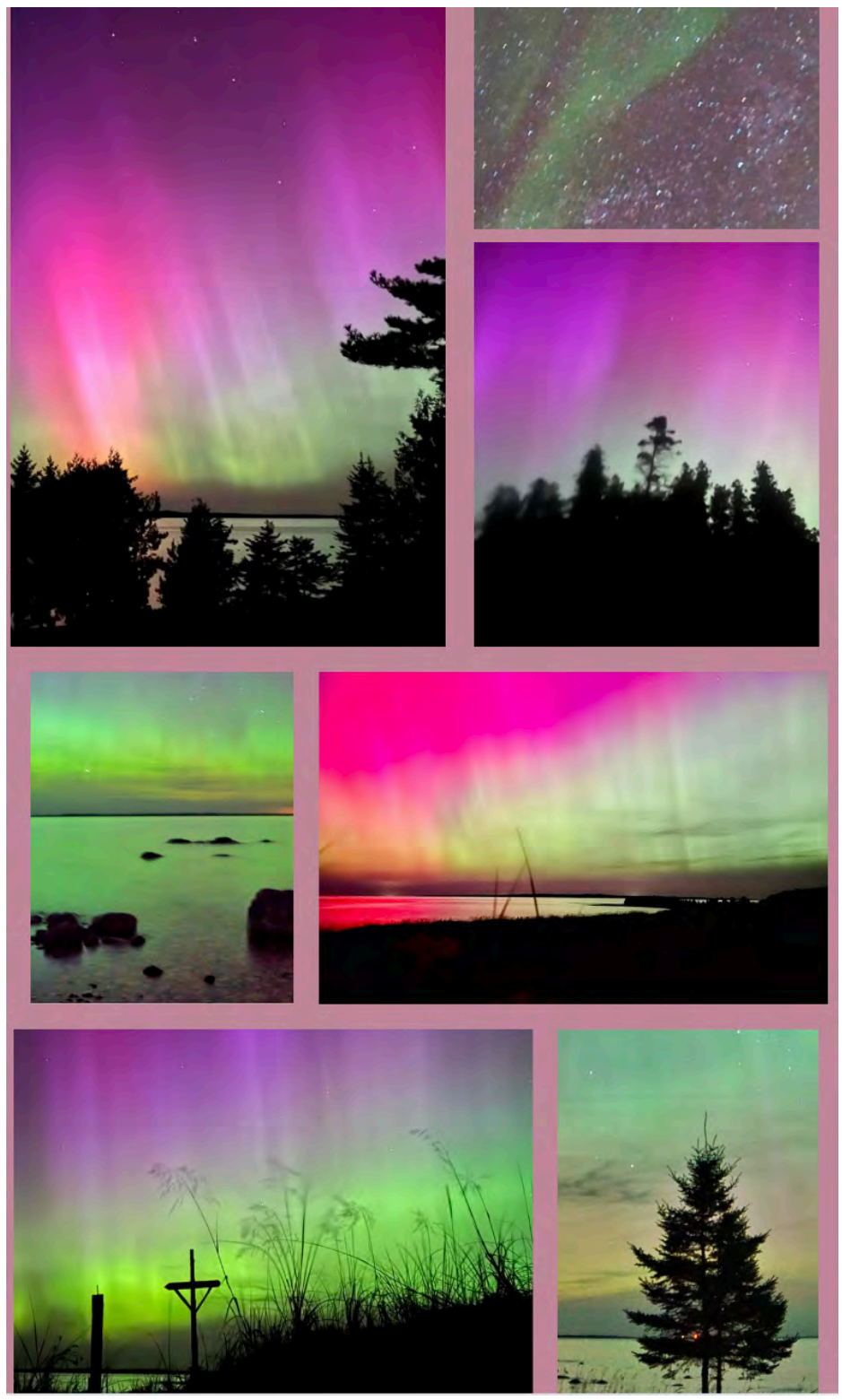

Photo Credits: Sopie McDonough, Shelby Teeter, Becca Foli, Gina Mangra, Leslie McCaw

GREAT LAKES ISLAND ALLIANCE ANNOUNCES FOUR-DAY SUMMIT

By Philip Rice

Great Lakes Islands Alliance (GLIA) is pleased to announce its upcoming summit, scheduled to take place September 22-25 at Michigan's Les Cheneaux Islands, with events in Cedarville and Hessel. This four-day event is a gathering of island community residents, advocates, and community leaders dedicated to the preservation and sustainable development of the Great Lakes islands.

The GLIA Summit serves as a platform for fostering collaboration and sharing innovative strategies aimed at addressing the unique challenges faced by island communities across the Great Lakes region. Participants will experience a dynamic agenda featuring an educational boat tour of the Les Cheneaux Islands, panel discussions, interactive workshops, and networking opportunities designed to explore topics such as environment, economics, culture, media, and community engagement.

The Les Cheneaux Islands, known for their vibrant maritime culture, provide an ideal backdrop for meaningful discussions and collaborations among stakeholders invested in the future of island environments. Registration for the GLIA Summit is currently open to residents of Great Lakes Islands communities. GLIA is also seeking sponsors for the Summit and offers benefits such as logo placement and written recognition in signage, print materials, online, and marketing for business partners. For more information about the GLIA Summit and to register or become a sponsor visit www.glialliance.org/summit

The Great Lakes Islands Alliance is a collaborative network dedicated to the stewardship and prosperity of Great Lakes islands. GLIA encourages relationship building, fosters information exchange, and leverages resources to address shared challenges and embrace opportunities to benefit Great Lakes islands. Through advocacy, research, and community engagement, GLIA works to preserve the unique environmental, cultural, and economic attributes of these islands.

Great Lakes Islands Alliance (GLIA) members come from year-round island communities. Other island communities in the Great Lakes are all welcome to join.
Learn more about GLIA at www.glialliance.org

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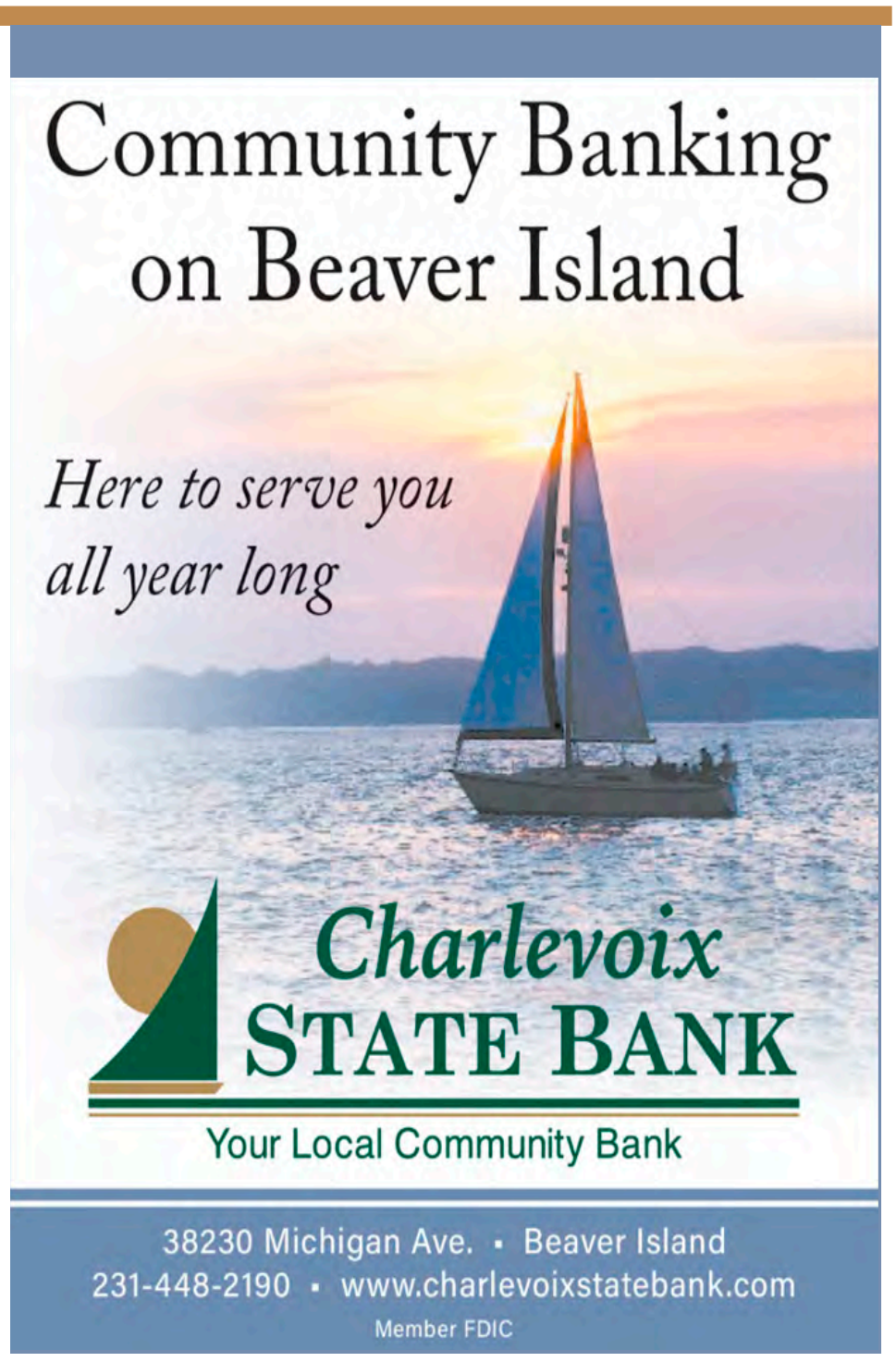
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THE BEAVER ISLAND HISTORICAL SOCIETY PROUDLY ANNOUNCED THE RELAUNCH OF THE BEAVER BEACON AS A HISTORY MAGAZINE DEVOTED TO TELLING THE STORY OF BEAVER ISLAND.

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Furbabies of Beaver Island

MEET ELLIE AND BLU

By Stacey & George Rasky

We took a last photo of them in our “Beaver Island beater” before we sold it and finally transported our new truck up from Florida so they could have an actual back seat.

We have 2 border collies and 2 Maine coon cats

Oakley (blonde cat) is obsessed with being outside so I leash walk him at the house and built a catio for him. Dexter (black one) while he looks intimidating is a huge scaredy-cat. He fell asleep while overseeing a family game of Mexican dominoes.

Blu is obsessed with letting all the deer and turkeys know that his little plot of land is his and they need to stay on their side.

Ellie is obsessed with us throwing her stick into the water. Her evening pasttime ritual is sitting with her dad staring off at the bluff.

We can be seen each evening giving the dogs their ritual of riding in the buggy for the sights and sounds of the harbor.

We recently got a boat for them to join us and enjoy all the island has to offer.

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Furbabies of Beaver Island

MEET COOPER

By Jennifer Welch

Beaver Island is such a dog friendly island, Cooper is lucky to spend summers here with clean air, beautiful waters to swim in and lots of car rides.

He loves wearing his " doggles"!

MEET BEAR

By Kristina Bozoarth

Bear is a two year old Aussiedoodle from Fulshear, TX. This summer was his second time visiting Beaver Island. He learned to swim in Lake G, and his favorite hobby is riding around on the paddleboard with his favorite humans.

Bear has the best personality. He is always very energetic and encourages his humans to take daily walks on the beach and through the trails. Bear has also learned to respect the wildlife and no longer barks at the loons and ducks on the lakes. He is friendly to all humans and dogs, and is treated as the baby of his family.

Thank you for considering Bear to be featured in the newspaper. He loves attention, and if featured I'm sure he would proudly frame the article above his bed!

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Calling All Beavers: Please Join Our Northern Islander Family

The Beaver Island Historical Society is delighted to have acquired the Northern Islander newspaper. Our aim is to preserve and honor our history, deliver Island news, educate our readers, and provide endless smiles and memories.

We are committed to creating a new publication with an authentic vision and enthusiastic leadership team dedicated to producing relevant storytelling experiences for the community, by the community.

As a nonprofit organization, we can only succeed and thrive with your support. Please join this adventure and help the BIHS by telling your family and friends to subscribe **NOW** and make the paper an important part of your life!

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